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Happy birthday harmonica, happy birthday to you!

The smallest, but probably the most widely played musical instrument in the world today, the harmonica, celebrates its 150th birthday this year. It was invented in 1821 by the Berlin musical instrument manufacturer, Christen Friedrich Ludwig Buschmann.

But Buschmann was not enough of a businessman to make his invention a going proposition. Its rise to fame began in the year 1827 when one of Buschmann's mouth-organs turned up in Trossingen on the Bear, not one of the merchant crossroads of the world! It was

brought there by a clockmaker from Vienna.

A weaver in Trossingen, Christian Mesnar, copied the *Wienerin*, as he first called the instrument, when his own developed a fault. Then he hit on the idea of making more of the little pleasant-sounding "mouth-harps" to give to the clockmakers along the river Bear for when they went on their travels.

For thirty years the secret of how to make the instrument belonged to a few clockmakers on the Bear. It was not till 1857 when the young Trossingen clockmaker Matthias Hohner started making the instruments on new sophisticated machines that mass-production became possible.

By the turn of the century several million harmonicas were being produced in Trossingen and exported all over the world as champions of Swabian quality goods.

In 1927 when the hundredth anniversary of the production of harmonicas in Trossingen was celebrated the village was raised to the status of a town.

The first steps had been taken towards forming an international harmonica orchestra in Germany, Switzerland, Austria, The Netherlands and France.

Many people took the harmonica to their hearts including top statesmen. It is said that United States Presidents Abraham Lincoln, J. Edgar Hoover and Dwight D. Eisenhower were keen mouth-organ players.

Europe's players were the Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria, Prince Max

Egon zu Fürstenberg and King Gustav V of Sweden. Even Pope Pius XI liked playing the mouth-organ.

A harmonica was the first musical instrument to be played in space. Astronaut Walter Schirra smuggled one into his space capsule in December 1965 and on his Trossingen *Lilli-Mundharmonika* he surprised Earth control by playing a Christmas carol!

It is still not known how Schirra was able to smuggle the instrument into his space capsule. Which made his pleasure at surprising the world with his music all the greater.

The distant ancestor of the mouth-organ is the ancient Chinese sheng, which is said by a saga to have been invented by the Emperor Huang Tei 2,800 years before Christ.

This instrument is still played today. It is not known whether the tongues of metal that make the sound in the harmonica came to Europe via the land route and Siberia or whether they were brought by sailors.



Trossingen's 'Hohner' were the first mass-produced harmonicas. (Photo: Center Press)

It is known, however, that the sheng of metal as a producer of musicals was generally known by 1810.

Then in 1821 Buschmann first used in his harmonica and this sound led to the invention of the "squeeze-box", the accordion.

These have also been produced in Trossingen and exported all over the world for several years now. (STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 2 February 1971)

The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Another French *non* to British EEC entry will be fatal

The watchdogs of French nation-state thinking may well have gained a Pyrrhic victory in halting the trend towards supranational European institutions again at the latest negotiations of the European Economic Community (EEC) in Brussels.

The balance of the European Common Market has now been disturbed. A fragile Western European structure has unexpectedly arisen that will make successful integration even more essential in the immediate future than it has been in the past.

In Brussels the French government was once again able to skim the cream off the milk. Monetary policy cooperation was agreed, if only for a limited period but hopes and expectations were all the signs there was of cooperation on economic policy, which would have called for supranational institutions.

In case of need the stronger currency will back the weaker — the Mark will support the franc. This state of affairs cannot be permanent and it was only accepted as a crutch in order to keep the wheel of Western European integration turning. It is now inexorably turning towards the all-important problem of Britain's EEC entry bid.

The talks with Britain are reaching a critical stage. Differences of opinion in Britain are undisguised and the controversy is gaining momentum. Whitehall's ability to sustain economic strain is unmistakably limited.

This does not mean that the Common Market countries must accept all British

would not merely be alienation between Britain and the Continent. The outcome of having made do with a dubious compromise in Brussels would then be clear.

Had the Six agreed on progress towards economic union in the spirit of the Hague conference — to all intents and purposes on political integration too, that is — a storm would not have been able to rage the Common Market over Britain. But as it is the EEC would hardly stomach a fresh triumph of rational egotism.

In the atmosphere of exasperation that would then be bound to develop all concessions made by one Common Market country to the other would appear dubious and be gone through with a fine-toothed comb.

It would, in the circumstances, be doubtful whether despite sacrificial efforts a great deal of progress towards a common currency would be made or, in view of the tension, much could be done towards establishing an economic union. And pressure to call off the currency experiment and all that that would entail in political terms would be bound to arise as soon as the consequences of the latest decisions on financing the EEC budget strike the general public.

According to these decisions Bonn will be paying about 3,000 million Marks into the kitty in the mid-seventies and Paris cashing roughly the same amount from it. This fund will be used in part to finance dumping of agricultural produce on world markets to an extent that can only cause increasing trouble with overseas allies.

Yet this country undertook to make its contribution in the unspoken hope that Britain, once a member of the EEC, would help to shoulder some of the burden.

All in all failure of the entry talks with



Speed-skating champion

Grenoble Olympics gold-medallist Erhard Keller made sure of first place in the second unofficial world speed-skating championships in Inzell on 20/21 February. Over the final 1,000 metres he thrilled a 7,000-strong crowd by coming home a tenth of a second ahead of Ove König of Sweden, setting up a new national record of 158.45 points in the process. In the centre Erhard Keller is receiving the honour for being first. On his left is Hase Boerjes and on his right Ove König, both from Sweden, who came second and third respectively. (Photo: dpa)

Britain could, if the blame were to be laid at France's door, rebound on many an unsatisfactory post compromise and bring down the entire edifice of European integration.

Since everyone on the Continent fears this outcome agreement with London has now assumed nearly imperative proportions.

It is by no means the case that with Britain's entry the European nation-state would triumph over the supranational spirit. It may well be that a determination to bring about unification and a political dynamism both of which are threatening to die the death on the Continent will

sally forth from the other side of the Channel.

Britain boasts not only gnarled traditionalists on the Right and Left but also a progressive political Centre.

Edward Heath's recent call for European unity of action to "give our countries together the position in the world that we can never again reach alone" and for new concepts and new supranational Western European institutions has articulated the political targets of this progressive Britain. Europeans on the Continent will want to form an effective alliance with him. (Photo: dpa)

(THE WELT, 20 February 1971)

Scheel's New York visit was fruitful

policy towards the Eastern Bloc but merely on the assessment of its prospects of success.

Walter Scheel's latest trip to America clearly showed, how useful, continual exchanges of views and intensive consultations can be. The work of the so-called Group of Four in Bonn, which consists of preparation by the Federal government and the three Western Powers for the Berlin talks and synchronisation of policy towards the Eastern Bloc, forestalls the occurrence of serious differences of opinion.

It ensured that detailed agreement is reached on the policy to be pursued and that the agreed policy is then pursued.

Washington is nowadays more than prepared to allow this country a greater degree of responsibility in Europe, particularly in dealings with Eastern Europe — not least because, as talks with the Foreign Minister revealed, Bonn is felt to be the driving force behind the movement

for Western European integration and an advocate of an "open" policy on the part of the European Communities.

Political integration of Western Europe and non-isolationist policies are a must as far as Washington is concerned if the United States is to accept the disadvantages the merging of the European market is going to involve for American trade and industry.

Herr Scheel assured his hosts in Washington that the Bonn Federal government will advocate regular and intensive consultations with the US government and industry in Brussels. A continual exchange of views and experience plays no mean part in ensuring that the interests of all and sundry are taken into account and so prevent serious conflict.

There has been many a smile about the non-committal travelling diplomats of the age and the fruitless activity at so many conferences. But meetings and an intensive exchange of views can be useful, particularly when they are undramatic and unpretentious. Walter Scheel's visit and the work of the Group of Four are cases in point. (Photo: dpa)

(KIELER NACHRICHTEN, 22 February 1971)

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS

South-East Asia poses threat of becoming a second Korea

Cleverly the Chinese have so far held off from involvement in the Vietnam War. They have withstood all temptations to bring them into direct confrontation with the Americans. They did nothing spectacular in 1964 and 1965 when President Johnson launched a massive attack from South Vietnam to put a stop to the victory march of the Liberation Front.

Nor did the Chinese send in an expeditionary force a year ago when President Nixon sent troops into Cambodia as part of his policy of Vietnamisation.

But now that the Americans have provided powerful air cover to allow South Vietnamese and Thai troops to march into southern Laos observers feel that Red China's reaction will be far more decisive.

The Peking *People's Daily* regaled a few days ago: "China and Laos have the same heritage, they share the same mountains and rivers. The attack on Laos is a serious threat to China. We will not allow United States imperialism to do as it wants in Laos."

At the customary anti-American protest meetings in Peking, Canton and other cities in China veterans from the Korean War were also on the march. They brought the Americans and their auxiliary troops face to face with a second Korea.

Such talk as this was not taken seriously by General McArthur in the winter of 1950-51 when he pushed forward into Yalu and provoked war with China.

The Americans are once again showing themselves to be all too self-assured but quite unconvincing, when they maintain that the Laos operation under their auspices does not represent a threat to China and that they are really seeking better relations with China. Peking is not swallowing that.

Red China has come to expect anything from the Nixon government now that it

has become obvious that Vietnamisation is in no way confined to Vietnam but has led to a conflagration in the whole of Indo-China and is already affecting Thailand.

Laos, like North Vietnam, is for China a strategic area in which it will not tolerate an enemy power and has been such for some time.

Have the protégés of the United States in Saigon, Thieu and Ky, who were fighting against their own people in the days when the French were in Indo-China, not recently dreamed quite openly of an incursion into North Vietnam without Washington taking any steps to shelter their dreams?

In accordance with its historical policy on the South-East Asia mainland China seemed prepared up to a few years ago to tolerate and co-exist with small neutral buffer states between themselves and the American sphere of influence. Since President Nixon has been pursuing his policy of withdrawal with a kind of vanguard action by his protégés this relatively peaceful situation has literally been trampled underfoot by the boots of the allies. Now Mao Tse-tung has been laying much greater emphasis on the other constant factor in his policy, namely the role of the protectors of the revolutionary people's power. The Chinese are not prepared to sit back and watch them be defeated.

China has a whole range of possibilities. It could quickly drum up an expeditionary force. But China will avoid direct conflict with the Americans and their allies unless any actual threat is made to the Chinese borders or any of its allies should seem to be on the verge of defeat.

Alternatively the Chinese could send their own auxiliary troops in some guise or other to North Vietnam and the "liberated zones" of Laos. This would mean that more of the indigenous free-

dom fighters in these countries would be free to get on with their real work. This method, which presumably cannot be dubbed intervention, has already been pursued by the Chinese when American bombs were raining down on North Vietnam. The procedure could be repeated with even greater force.

There has been a Chinese presence in northern Laos for some years. They are building a road which will be passable in all weathers from Yunnan with a branch leading to Dien Bien Phu in North Vietnam and to the Thai border. Permission for this road to be built was given in Peking in 1963 by the Laotian Premier Prince Souvanna Phouma who was then actually neutral. This fact is today generally speaking hushed up. The project which was originally conceived as a "peace route" could easily be turned into a military road.

But the Chinese do not embark on any military adventure until it is absolutely essential. They mistrust direct exports of the Revolution by sending forces into other countries. This is in their view far more the tactics of the "American counter-revolution".

Mao has said on this: "Liberation must be achieved by a country's own forces in a long-term civil war."

But of course the Chinese support the liberation movements with arms and encouragement. Recently they signed a new agreement to give increased aid to North Vietnam and the Pathet Lao. But the Chinese do not think along the same lines as the Americans, in terms of months or the lapse of time between one election and another; they operate in terms of years and decades.

President Nixon's hectic and militaristic manoeuvres in Indo-China have squandered many political opportunities in Cambodia and Laos, engagements with Thailand and North Vietnam, and last but not least a coalition in Saigon excluding the hawk Thieu and Ky.

It seems as if America will in the end have to be content with seeing the formation of some new "peoples' democracies". The Asian military manoeuvres of the United States have so far been caught up in a series of political miscarriages.

Stefried Kubink
(Köln: Stadt-Anzeiger, 18 February 1971)

Brussels speaks out on Comecon

Direct talks between the European Economic Community (EEC) and the Moscow-oriented Council for Mutual Economic Aid (Comecon) seem to be long time coming.

The EEC Commission in Brussels just stated in reply to a query by a member of the European Parliament that contacts between the two bodies are a matter of the question, though the complexly different structure and targets of the two must be borne in mind.

This ought to put a stop to thoughts of talk in Western Europe of Comecon as the "Eastern European counterpart to the EEC."

Brussels specifically noted that Comecon does not have an executive body comparable with the EEC Commission, independently seeing to it that European legislation and agreements stand by and ensuring equality for member-countries, large and small.

Unlike the EEC, Brussels comes to coordinate European production plans. It does go on to add that Soviet requirements predominate and that Comecon is an economic counterpart of the Brezhnev doctrine that "socialist" states are limited sovereignty.

There are good reasons for this. It is well-known that Poland has pressed Moscow for a year to be allowed to establish contacts with the EEC's member-countries from the Six.

Soviet readiness to accept the fact of the EEC's existence (starting in 1962) would be unlikely to grow. Moscow poked fun at the idea and since vilified it except for a short time in 1962, would be unlikely to grow. Brussels were in spell out Comecon's function in words of one syllable.

But the facts being as they are, it is evident for the time being that Moscow is not ready to accept Comecon as an opposite member and so indirectly allow the Soviet Union to increase their hold on the economies of Eastern Europe.

Hermann Rolfe
(Köln: Nachrichten, 16 February 1971)

CHINA

Sinologists agree to differ at Hamburg seminar



Opinions differ on Maoism. Even Sinologists disagree when it comes to painting a picture of China today with the aid of the known ideological goals of the men in power in Peking.

At its political science conference on "Twenty Years of People's China" the Federal Republic East Asian Studies Society, meeting in Hamburg, tried to reach a consensus on China by means of numerous analyses of known developments in ideology and the arts, domestic and foreign policy, the economy, power structure and constitution of the People's Republic.

For three days leading Sinologists, politicians and economists in this country attempted to outline pointers to an up-to-date picture of contemporary China. As it turned out they were only able to indicate trends.

Both sides know that in China today the revolutionaries around Mao Tse-tung are trying to create a new view of society. But does the change that is being made amount to a genuine democratisation of the individual Chinese or is the trend towards outright equality even among the sexes more of a glaring example of perverse egalitarianism?

Are Mao's ideologists irreverent annihilators of civilisation or do they intend transforming Chinese traditionalism? Mass consciousness, praised to the skies by the Party as an expression of spontaneous revolutionary verve, turns out all too often to be a cliché imposed on the people from above that eliminates any trace of individuality. The selfless new Maoist man proves to be a lackey of the state.

Can a modern mass state be managed with the aid of this kind of man? Will not progressive industrialisation necessarily mean a return to revisionism? Does this new society of enforced equals necessarily lead to permanent revolution with equals remaining equal?

The Cultural Revolution was intended to create a new category of man, development of this kind of man? Will not progressive industrialisation necessarily mean a return to revisionism? Does this new society of enforced equals necessarily lead to permanent revolution with equals remaining equal?

The output of the Soviet propaganda machine, now running flat out in preparation for the Twenty-Fourth Congress would seem to bear this out yet again. The production targets of the next five-year plan are given prominence and the others are confirming the cohesion of the Eastern Bloc.

The Party leadership is saving a few words addressed to international political counterparts on the "capitalist" side of the fence for the congress itself.

Over the last couple of months Poland appeared to have become the least secure of Moscow's European allies, the workers at large factories having begun to voice their own opinions about government policy. But the reshuffle at the top in Warsaw makes it clear that the points at issue in what is the second-largest Eastern Bloc country have remained domestic economic and social matters.

The new leadership has allowed not a

Modern Maoist society would like to be classed as a monolithic unit yet it is far from having reached this target. Symbolic figures climb the rungs of the Party ladder, are swept away by the next purge, foundering on the political controls to which the state has subjected itself.

When Mao decided to regain control over the Party with the aid of the army he initiated the Cultural Revolution. The Cultural Revolution may have been practised as a process of transformation to the new kind of man but it also to a very great extent bore witness to the power struggle behind the Party scenes.

As according to Mao power comes from gun barrels the leadership of the state is now entirely in the hands of the army. The Party is still termed the leadership nucleus of the Chinese people but the nucleus of the nucleus is the armed forces.

How, then, can China best be described — as a people's commune or as a military dictatorship? Klaus-Herbert Wolff
(DIE WELT, 17 February 1971)

Moscow and the Balkans

While Moscow is largely ignoring the resumption of full diplomatic relations between Yugoslavia and Albania after a break of thirteen years there is irritated talk in Sofia of a miniature Balkan pact directed against the interests of the socialist countries.

The Bulgarians, who lay claim to Yugoslav territory as far west as the Albanian frontier, feel this time that the move is aimed directly at them. A belt of unfriendly countries from one side of the Balkans to the other is in the process of development.

If relations between Belgrade and Tirana really do develop into a good-neighbour policy (the political map of the Balkans will look different too).

A tectonic pact between Rumania and Yugoslavia with the approval of Albania will virtually cut Bulgaria off from the remainder of the Eastern Bloc.

The latest development, cordial relations between Bulgaria and Greece, surprisingly tolerated by Moscow despite the political situation in present-day Greece, is even more menacing.

Whatever other conclusions may be drawn it seems clear that Moscow's influence on the Balkan countries is on the decline.

(Köln: Nachrichten, 11 February 1971)

Domestic policies dominate Soviet CP congress

shadow of doubt to be cast on its loyalty to the bloc and agreements reached by the previous administration, including the treaty with Bonn, have expressly been declared unaffected by the changes. The reshuffle has only affected the main economic policy-makers and security men.

For the time being the planning chief is Witold Trojczynski, a man with some knowledge of Western economies who has proved his worth at the state bank and in the foreign trade department.

The Minister of the Interior is ex-Deputy Chief of Police Szalchic, a man reckoned to be one of the nationally-minded group of veteran partisans, who was lucky enough not to have anything to do with what went on in the Baltic coast towns during the critical period.

The Finance Minister has announced that higher taxes are to be levied on what is left of private enterprise while the difficult problems relating to foodstuffs

President Pompidou returns to strife-ridden France

In the past few weeks the French government has had to put up with much gloating from trade unions, protests from malcontented farmers, disturbances at high schools and universities and post and television strikes.

President Georges Pompidou was on a ten-day visit to Africa. The supreme authority in Paris was missing. The French government seemed incapable of solving the current problems and tried to postpone them until Pompidou was back at the Elysée to have the last word.

This confirms that the French President has strengthened his position as the supreme authority in France and has extended his powers.

At the same time, however, it became clear that despite the peaceful atmosphere in France and the economic progress that has been made there, there are still many sources of social unrest. The Pompidou/Chaban-Delmas government will have to overcome these problems on the way to its promised "new society", to greater social equality, to sweeping educational reforms and to greater liberalism.

There is no binding guarantee that the government can preserve its majority as Pompidou's policy of developing Gaullism runs its course as the retirement of the two old Gaullists Vendroux and Fouchet last week proves.

Observers in Paris are anxious to avoid placing too great a significance on these events. The comparison with 1968 when Prime Minister Pompidou was in Afghanistan and President de Gaulle was in Rumania while the student riots raged in the Latin Quarter seems exaggerated. There are no parallels with the present visit of Pompidou to Africa. It seems improbable that there will be an outbreak of major social unrest.

But diverse groups of the French people are showing growing discontent with the government which is being measured by the yardsticks of the high-flown promises it made in its early days. For miners and farmers it is a fight for survival. In the universities protests are being lodged about the failure to implement reform legislation and insufficient financial provisions. The lycées in Paris are protesting about the draconic judgement against an 18-year-old who was arrested at a proscribed demonstration, accused of striking a police officer and who is probably innocent. The left-wing extremists have lapped this up for agitation purposes.

Each of these events on its own would not perturb the government unduly but their coincidence in recent weeks has been disturbing.

The unions have, however, lost a lot of their former aggressiveness following the successes of economic and social services policies put into operation by the Paris government. But the struggle could easily be switched to a new sphere with which it is not so easy to get to grips, for instance the question of civil rights and the independence of television.

In this context there is also an aura of general discontent with the police who have been accused on several occasions of excessive violence at public meetings.

In the government and the Gaullist majority group representatives of the hard line and of liberal policies confront each other. But so far their contradictory speeches and actions have had a mutually limiting effect. The next few weeks will show whether Pompidou on his return can cool down the feeling of discontent.

Hans Bartsch
(Köln: Nachrichten, 17 February 1971)

Seabed protection treaty will not hamstring the major powers

Two factors lurking in the background will effect the American-Soviet arms talks on strategic nuclear weapons, firstly the forthcoming Salt conference in Vienna and the shift of emphasis in future missile programmes from land bases to seabound launching pads.

The latter throws light on the true value of the treaty recently signed in Moscow forbidding the use of the seabed for missile launching pads and for storing weapons capable of mass annihilation, that is to say rockets with nuclear warheads, atomic mines and submarine nuclear weapon depots.

This treaty has no major practical significance inasmuch as it does not prevent the two major world powers developing the strategic arms arsenal on which they place the greatest value, perfecting this or rather protecting it.

If they really had a serious interest in this they would either have refused to sign the treaty or worded it in a different manner.

The new treaty allows every nuclear power the right to build up underwater rocket batteries and nuclear weapon dumps within the twelve-mile limit, that is to say on its own continental shelf.

But such emplacements have only very slight advantages over conventional subterranean missile sites on the mainland, since the shallow waters near the coast do not offer adequate protection.

It would have been a different story with deep-sea emplacements on the Atlantic and Pacific ocean floors. There would have been a strategic value in placing missile batteries and dumps of

nuclear arms for launching from submarines in these well protected undersea depots.

This is a decision that the signatories of the new arms limitation treaty have presumably taken because on such sites the additional advantages would have been bought at too high a price and the risk of disturbing the uneasy peace would have been too great.

With this in mind the Americans gave up development work on their "Hydra" project long before the treaty was signed. This Hydra system planned to dump nuclear missiles from submarines on the ocean floor, anchor them there and prepare them for firing from a central remote-control station at the outbreak of hostilities.

The Americans are now planning to dig into their budget and develop a new super underwater-launched missile, the first underwater intercontinental rocket with a range of 8,000 to 10,000 kilometres (over 5,000 miles) to be launched from large submarines, the so-called underwater cruisers.

This project has already been made public by the American Defence Secretary Melvin Laird.

The new missile system is provisionally called "ULMS, Undersea Long-range Missile System."

Poseidon rockets with MIRV warheads offer two advantages: a greater range — about 6,000 kilometres as compared to the estimated 4,600 kilometres of the Polaris A3 — and theoretically about three times as great an effect with its ten individual missile heads as compared with the three 300,000 ton warheads of the Polaris A3.

But the range offered by the Poseidon makes it necessary for vessels that are to attack targets in central Russia and China to be placed in a firing position in the open seas in which they cannot be protected by support vessels but are open to attack from the enemy navy and air force. The risk is not particularly high now that nuclear subs can fire missiles while submerged, since it is still difficult to locate them. But the danger could increase in the next ten years.

Counteracting this growing risk in time is the point of the new ULMS development. A range of over 5,000 miles means that the rocket launching submarine can be placed in any favourable position and aim at virtually any target.

The Russians are developing similar missiles and speeding up their own rocket submarine programme. In 1970 they had ten nuclear submarines each carrying sixteen SS-N-6 nuclear rockets. They are

increasing this fleet by between ten and twenty vessels annually. The SS-N-6 estimated to have a range of about 2,000 kilometres or 2,000 miles.

Observers have noted for some time that the introduction of the land-based Russian intercontinental missile SS-9 is being slowed down. These are threatened by the American Minuteman emplacements with their high power and accuracy. This has led western observers to assume that the Russians are shifting emphasis of their missile programme to underwater launching pads and SS-N-6 rockets.

Lothar Rühl
(DIE WELT, 15 February 1971)

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LABOUR AFFAIRS

Government and Opposition agree basically on changes in worker participation

Existing laws provide for two types of worker participation in decision-making. Firstly, there is equal participation on the boards of mining firms and secondly all joint-stock companies (apart from family concerns) and in other stock companies of different legal status if they employ more than 500 workers a third of the board must be made up of a worker delegation.

Government Bills for a law governing industrial relations and for a continuation of worker participation in the mining industry are meant to uphold the present state of affairs.

In the mining industry they plan to prevent equal worker participation suddenly being ended in the event of mining companies merging with other companies. Equal worker participation is to be upheld for a number of years at least under certain conditions.

Worker participation in the mining industry functions as follows. Boards are composed of eleven members, four of whom are elected by shareholders and a further four by employees. An additional member is then elected by both the shareholders and employee representatives. The eleventh member of the board is then co-opted by the two groups.

During the last legislative period the Social Democrats introduced a Bill in the Bundestag that would have imposed this board structure on all large companies and concerns in other branches of the economy as long as they were of a certain size.

The scheme would be introduced in those firms which employed at least two thousand workers and had a balance of at least 75 million Marks, those with at least two thousand workers and an annual turnover of at least 150 million Marks and those with profit of at least 75 million Marks and an annual turnover of 150 million Marks or more.

At the same time the Social Democrats wanted to set up boards of employee delegates in these firms to act as a balance to the main shareholder meetings. As yet the SPD have not made any new decisions concerning worker participation on boards.

Unlike the government, the Christian Democrat and Christian Social Union Opposition has submitted a Bill for a new law governing worker participation in firms that also provides new rules for boards.

In firms employing up to 2,000 workers a third of the board would continue to consist of employee delegates, the CDU/CSU proposes. The ruling of the 1952 law still governing industrial relations would therefore be retained.

The CDU also proposes upholding the ruling that family joint-stock companies employing less than 500 workers need not have employee delegates on the board.

The Party furthermore proposes upholding the rule that limited companies, mining unions and mutual insurance companies must set up partnership boards if they employ more than 500 workers. Existing laws do not make this compulsory for mutual insurance companies but the CDU/CSU would like to introduce this.

For concerns with more than 2,000 workers the CDU Bill proposes a twelve-man board composed of seven shareholders, delegates and five worker delegates. If the number of board members is increased, this must be done by increasing the number of the two groups equally. It

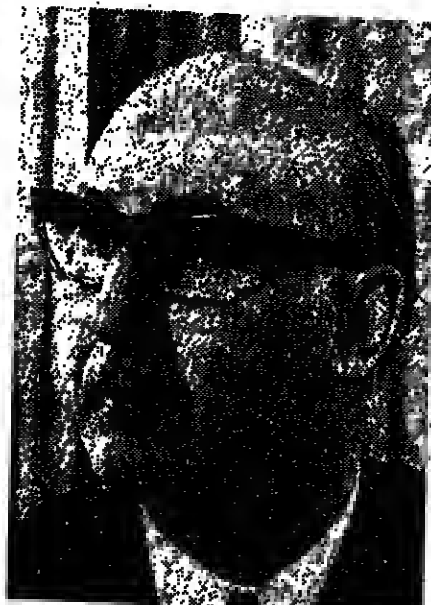
would then be possible for instance to have a board consisting of nine shareholders and seven employee delegates.

Contrary to these proposals, the Biedenkopf Commission has proposed a board made up of six shareholders and four employee delegates. Two further members would be elected by a majority of the shareholders and the employee representatives. That would lead to a board consisting of seven shareholders and five employee representatives.

The CDU/CSU Bill proposes changes in the joint-stock law to strengthen the position of employee delegates on the board. It is planned that the chairman of the board must from the very beginning discuss negotiations preceding the appointment of members of the executive with either the presidium of the board, the personnel committee or with the whole board.

As a further proposal provides for a participation of employee delegates in the committees and presidium corresponding to their number on the board itself, there is a second guarantee that decisions would not be taken without employee representatives.

This would be even more assured as the CDU/CSU Bill prescribes a written justification and its inclusion in the minutes



Hans Katzer, Opposition expert on labour affairs (Photo: dpa)

In the case of a majority vote and it is also intended to release employee delegates to a certain extent from their obligation to be silent if cases of dispute arise.

The two worker participation Bills of the government and the CDU/CSU Opposition are comparable in as far as the largest part of the CDU/CSU Bill aims to reform the same aspects as the government Bill — the rights of the workers council and the individual employees in the firm.

But the two Bills are drawn up differently. Because of the CDU/CSU's aim of placing more emphasis on the rights of the individual worker, this is given prominence in their Bill.

There are only minimal differences in the substance of the Bills. Both the governing coalition and the Opposition wish to depart from the current law governing industrial relations and grant every individual employee the right of being informed in detail by his employer of his duties, responsibilities and important technical, organisational and staff changes.

The CDU/CSU Bill deals with this right more than the government Bill and it also states that the functions and responsibilities

of employees must be clearly defined.

The CDU Bill also states, "Members of a firm set according to their own responsibility within their functional sphere. When establishing spheres of responsibility attention must be paid to delegating duties as far as possible."

The more thorough rules in the CDU/CSU Bill also state that employers and employees are obliged to encourage that exchange of information within the firm.

Other important rights contained in the two Bills concern the inspection of personal files and the employee's comments. These comments are to be added to the personal files. Employees must also have their wages or salaries explained to them if demanded. There should also be a right of complaint.

The two Bills differ on what they define as an employee. In the government Bill it is not only directors of limited companies or the management who are excluded from this definition but also senior white-collar workers if they are allowed to appoint and dismiss staff, have powers to engage workers or carry out important duties for the firm because of their special knowledge.

The CDU/CSU Bill only excluded directors or the management of limited companies from the employee category. The Opposition Bill does however envisage special representation for the top white-collar workers in the shape of consultative committees.

Like the government Bill, the CDU/CSU Bill would curtail the rights of participation of the workers councils in personnel issues involving the top white-collar workers.

The minority employees consider that the most important right of the workers council — a body they elect — is participation in questions concerning personnel.

There is a significant difference between the government and CDU/CSU Bills on the participation of the workers council in decisions involving dismissals.

Like the CDU/CSU Bill, the government Bill states that the workers' council should be heard and informed before any dismissals are made.

But the right of the workers council to oppose dismissals is given stricter expression in the CDU/CSU Bill and, in case of dispute, this opposition can only be reconciled by a labour court.

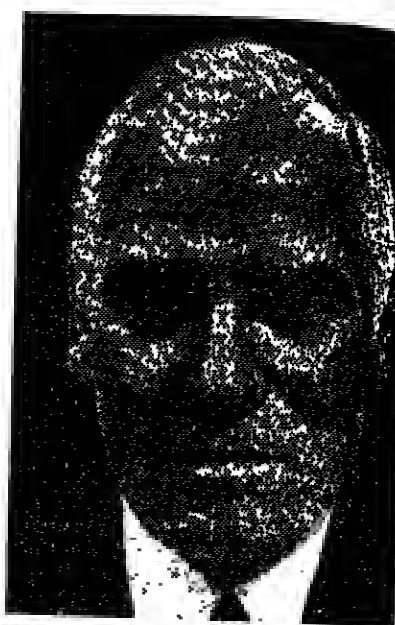
In the government Bill only the employee himself can complain to a labour court and the employer must tell the employee what the position of the workers council is if this body has indeed opposed the dismissal.

The two Bills differ little on the general duties of the workers council and on the laws necessary to guarantee its work.

There are differences in the phraseology for the rights of participation in decision-making in the social sphere. The government Bill merely says that the workers council has to participate in various cases and appends a list of measures.

The Opposition Bill contains essentially the same list but states, "The following questions can only be settled jointly by the employer and workers councils."

The list contains for example regulations for the start and the finish of the working day, the fixing of short-term employment, overtime or shift work (this point is omitted in the government Bill), the administration of social amenities, the establishment of rates of pay and the allocation of holiday dates.



Walter Arendt, Federal Labour Minister

Participation in personnel affairs is limited to dismissals in either Bill but also mentioned with regard to appointments. There is not enough space here to list all the points in detail but both have the clear aim of preventing employers settling staff questions without consulting the workers council.

Other important rulings in the two Bills concern with the rights of workers council in the event of optional changes. These are described in the CDU/CSU Bill as mass dismissals and the government Bill avoids this term.

Both Bills state that the limit should be drawn where the proportion of employees dismissed or transferred exceeds ten per cent of the total labour force. Both Bills state that there must be a welfare scheme and a redress of economic hardship for people affected by such measures.

Both Bills also state that there must be an economic committee in firms, contrary to the laws currently pertaining. This committee employer and employee would regularly discuss the economic affairs of the firm.

These would include the production programme, large investment projects, the economic and financial state of the firm, the position of production, sales, personnel planning, rationalisation and automation proposals and other affecting the interests of the firm employees. The two Bills have almost the same wording on these points.

The Bills do however differ on the number of members to sit on a workers council. At present workers councils in firms employing between five and twenty workers eligible to vote consist of one or two members.

Both Bills propose that this figure should be retained along with the ruling that firms with between 21 and 50 workers should have a three-man council and firms with between 51 and 150 workers five-man workers' council.

But the government Bill proposes a large increase in the number of members on workers' councils in larger concerns. A firm employs more than 30,000 people the workers council is to consist of 25 members. The largest workers council number at present 25 to 35 members, are found in firms employing more than 9,000 people.

The CDU/CSU Bill plans to increase the size of workers' councils only minimally to a maximum of 43 members for firms with more than 25,000 employees.

Both Bills envisage a greater representation of young people than is the case under the existing law. On the other hand they differ on the protection of minorities and the representation of workers' groups.

According to the Opposition Bill spokesmen for the working groups can be chosen as soon as this is established in the law.

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REFORMS

Professor Thomas Ellwein presents controversial armed forces reforms

The most important and certainly most controversial man in the Ministry of Defence after Minister Helmut Schmidt is a civilian — Thomas Ellwein, a professor of political science.

Professor Ellwein is the head of the Armed Forces Educational Institute as well as chairman of the Commission for the Reorganisation of Military Training and Education.

Some people view his position with suspicion. It is not only the Professor's political standpoint that has been attacked. Proposals made by his commission have also met with fierce criticism.

And yet there is no doubt that instruction by the armed forces must be reformed. The principle once drawn up by the Prussian general staff that an army consists of elite units, regular troops and a territorial defence, a view that still applies today, is somewhat of an anachronism in the age of the nuclear deterrent.

Continued from page 4

wage negotiations. In the government Bill this is possible without a wage contract. Another point of divergence is the ban on party political activity contained in the CDU/CSU Bill and based on the existing law. The government Bill would like to raise this ban.

It can also be seen that the CDU/CSU Bill does not strengthen the trades unions' position as regards the workers council as much as the government Bill plans.

On another point the two Bills are identical, coinciding with existing law. In concerns involved in influencing public opinion, especially newspaper concerns, the workers council's rights of participation in staff questions are curtailed.

Hans Dieter Kloss
(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 11 February 1971)

Making prisons more humane is about as unpopular in the Federal Republic as the abolition of capital punishment. The man on the street and even prominent conservative politicians demand that harsh measures should be taken against people who break the law.

Efforts to reform the prison system are often dismissed as soft. Many people think of a modern prison as a sanatorium.

In 1967 Gustav Heinemann, then Minister of Justice, set up a commission that has just issued its recommendations concerning penal reform. One of the reasons why the commission was set up were the deaths in Cologne's Klingelpütz prison.

The Commission's proposals may have caused untold horror to people still living in the Middle Ages. The Commission demands open prisons for certain offenders — a progressive minister of the Federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia government has already set up this type of prison.

It also demands less supervision with outside work and free exit. Pay should be linked to production and prisoners should receive up to a fortnight's holiday a year. These proposals are in no way revolutionary but quite simply a sensible idea.

Modernising the penal system is one of the most important government reforms in the legal sphere. Nothing characterises the situation in this field better than the fact that the Federal Republic still does not have laws governing the execution of a sentence.

The usual administrative guidelines such as the prison service and punishment

On top of this comes the increasing degree of technology that makes it indispensable for some troops at least to be specialised.

Finally the shortage of 2,500 full and 26,000 non-commissioned officers must not be forgotten. A course of training enabling easier transition into civilian life could make the soldiering profession more attractive once again and help to alleviate the shortage.

The proposals of the Ellwein Commission now being discussed at the Defence Ministry and by the armed forces before the final version of the recommendations appears at the end of March contain these suggestions.

Officer candidates must have high school leaving certificate. They begin their service period with a five-year training period consisting of three years at an armed forces' vocational college and two years military training.

Candidates will be able to choose between engineering, electronics, aerospace technology, biology, education, computer science, organisation and business management. Their study will be supplemented by sociological and educational lectures.

These five years are to be followed by a two-year initiation period in which the officers will take over their first duties. In the following five years of service the officer should gain promotion to higher ranks.

The first further training stage should begin in the thirteenth year of service. Officers will then study for two and a half years at an armed forces' academy or a public university or college.

During the second further training stage the top men of tomorrow will take a twelve-month course at a Federal Defence Academy. Anyone can apply for this course as long as he is a civilian or at least

forty years old. He must however pass an examination before being allowed to take the course.

For servicemen and non-commissioned officers who have signed on for a long period of service the commission proposes several military and specialist further training stages as well as the right to further professional training of a civilian nature for a period as long as 38 months.

As those interested will be able to catch up on their school-leaving certificate during these courses, they will have the opportunity of embarking on an officer career after undergoing the necessary training.

The Christian Democrat and Christian Social Unions have already violently attacked the Commission's proposals. "We need to train for the abolition of the army," said defence expert Egon Klepsch.

Criticism centred on various theories expressed by a sociologist named Soll, one of Ellwein's colleagues, during a discussion with young officers.

Statements such as "The political education of the officer has priority" and "The officer must be prepared to become politically active and if necessary support the abolition of the armed forces" are certainly provocative.

But it does seem a little excessive to seize upon an intentionally provocative contribution to a discussion made by one man and then damn Professor Ellwein and his colleagues as "Socialists" as Egon Klepsch has done.

Doubts against the scheme expressed by the top brass however are more serious. Nearly all the generals welcome the

proposals in principle, but there are details to which they object.

They regret the fact that there is no information about the financial needs occasioned by the reform. Cautious estimates state that the Commission's plans would require at least one thousand million Marks a year.

With the finances of the defence budget being as stretched as they are at present, that would mean an increase in defence expenditure, which the Finance Minister would hardly allow, or further cuts in armaments which would be indefensible considering the cuts already made and would probably meet with the opposition of our NATO allies.

There are also problems of personnel. The fact that no young officers would be available for three years is of lesser importance. One general has said, "We have always improved. The present situation is so bad that we would be willing to accept a further worsening for three years if an improvement can be achieved in this way."

What does seem to be more questionable to many people is that officer candidates are forced to study. There is the fear that many would-be officers will be frightened off by this.

It must also be taken into account that putting the proposals into practice would mean an increase in the size of the armed forces inevitable, even if only the present fighting strength were to be maintained. The demand for long-term soldiers caused by the increased period of training will increase by anything up to twenty per cent.

The final point is that the Commission's proposals place high demands on intelligence and education of the soldiers — demands that are unfortunately not always fulfilled.

The Commission is to be thanked for trying to make the armed forces more attractive and integrating them more into society. But it has obviously overlooked the fact that about ten per cent of conscripts have not even matriculated from elementary school. There is still time left to consider whether a reduction in numbers would not lead to a more powerful force.

(Münchener Merkur, 10 February 1971)

Prisoners' rehabilitation is cheaper than revenge

regulations of the Federal states' own Ministers of Justice control what happens in Federal Republic prisons as best they can.

Citizens demand that the State provide for law and order. Now the State can provide for "law and order" by weighting this term in inverted commas. The logical consequence is disorder.

The State can also provide for law and order by means of reason and good sense. This may be called soft treatment but it leads to a decrease in the crime rate.

It appears almost paradoxical. The brutal, bureaucratic penal system of the traditional type encourages crime and the most expensive prisons are in the end the cheapest.

Contrary to the prevailing view, the majority of people in prison are not aggressive gangster types. The typical prisoner has had a disturbed development; he is a person more or less unused for life and has not made the most of his opportunities.

Of course, special security measures are still necessary for the really dangerous criminals who total less than five per cent, especially for sexual offenders. But in normal cases at prisons in the Federal Republic normal prisoners are not completely corrupted until serving their sentence.

It is no rare event for a petty pilferer

merely encouraging the general increase in crime.

There may be initial expense involved in setting up a prison — from our own pockets — with adequate working opportunities, therapeutic amenities, sports grounds and the like that aims to rehabilitate the prisoner, and then not always successfully.

But on the positive side of the account there are the savings that can then be made — there is a saving of expenditure on social aid to the prisoner's family or his victim, there are the economic benefits of rehabilitation and the cost of putting up the prisoner again at the State's expense is avoided.

If the prisoner learns a trade while in prison he can do a useful and full-paid job and at the same time repair the damage that he has caused. He learns to be responsible instead of being robbed of all his sense of responsibility.

But all these considerations of usefulness and advantage must be subordinated to Basic Law, with its guarantee to respect the dignity of the human being, and the United Nations' declaration on preventing crime and treating offenders: "Imprisonment resulting in an offender being cut off from the outside world is of evil character if only because it robs those involved of their right of self-determination by robbing them of their freedom. The application of punishment should not increase the pain connected with the punishment."

This declaration is dated 1955.

Giselher Schöne

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 15 February 1971)

■ ENTERTAINMENT

Higher costs and smaller audiences plague theatres

Theatres in this country are hitting the headlines, though not because of their productions or stage scandals. Instead news stories usually come from behind the scenes. Because of a decline in attendances and a increase in costs theatres are in difficulties — the books cannot be balanced.

This is why the managers responsible for the artistic quality and financial accounts of their highly subsidised theatres have been approaching their State sponsors.

Some well-known names figure on the list of theatre managers who have come under fire because of this:

In 1967 Harry Buckwitz, at that time leading Frankfurt's municipal theatres, quarrelled with the municipal authority as it wished to keep its theatre budget down to 16.3 million Marks because of the recession. Buckwitz on the other hand wanted an extra 400,000 Marks.

In May 1969 the auditing committee of the Düsseldorf Provincial Assembly severely censured Karl-Heinz Stroux, who managed the local Schauspielhaus, for paying too generous salaries.

The most recent case occurred with Hans Lietzau in Hamburg. To balance his books, he had demanded that his six million Marks budget should be raised by 1.34 million for the 1969-70 season.

Reinhard Philipp, Hamburg's Cultural Affairs Senator, censured the manager of Deutsches Schauspielhaus. "While granting artistic freedom," Philipp said, "Lietzau neglected the important economic aspects and, in particular, did not take measures to halt the drop in attendances."

During the thirteen months that he was general director of the Schauspielhaus, Lietzau also had to suffer the consequences of the 1968-69 season under the luckless general director Egon Monk, as the Senate Report on the State of the Theatre in Hamburg states.

His legacy was a considerable drop in attendances. The Senate found out that an average of only 68 per cent of the seats available in the Schauspielhaus were taken.

At the same time over ninety per cent of seats at the Hamburg State Opera were sold. The Thalia Theater enjoys great

public favour and sold an average of 88 per cent of available tickets.

The Schauspielhaus decline becomes even plainer when comparing attendances for the various plays. The auditorium was not even half full for the worst attended production, Harold Pinter's one-act plays *Silence* and *Landscape*.

The best attended play, Brecht's *Pantifa*, played to 84 per cent of the total capacity. Comparable figures for the Thalia Theater range from 71 and 98 per cent.

The sponsoring authorities are not always completely blameless for the theatre crises. Whenever the city or State gets into financial difficulties many theatres suddenly find that they have to work on a smaller budget.

The years of recession in 1966 and 1967 plunged theatres into a real financial crisis. As they had their own money worries, most Federal states and local authorities stopped subsidising theatres. This led to closures, dismissals of technicians and actors, cooperation and an exchange of productions with neighbouring theatres.

Harry Buckwitz, the manager in Frankfurt, made the ironic comment that now that the building sites for the city's underground railway had been closed, so should the theatres.

But the municipal authorities and the Federal states want to avoid this as theatres help a city's cultural image. But to do this, the authorities have to dig deep in their coffers as the famous State-run and municipal theatres do not pay their way.

For the 1968-69 season public-owned theatres in Munich had a budget of 48 million Marks. Berlin's theatres had forty million Marks on which to base their plans and Hamburg 39 million.

These three cities have more theatres, more seats and higher attendances than anywhere else in the Federal Republic.

Receipts and expenditure at the State-run theatres can only be balanced by public funds however. Hamburg, with a State contribution of 59 per cent is the most economic city. Munich theatreland receives 69 per cent of its budget from public funds and Berlin as much as 78 per cent.

When subsidies are compared with the number of people attending the publicly-owned theatres, Berlin paid 30.28 Marks per head, Munich 27.30 and Hamburg 17.46 Marks.

Theatre prices are now calculated in a similar way to tram fares or admission charges for museums or swimming baths. If theatre expenditure were to be covered by box-office takings, the public would be barred as the tickets would be too expensive.

But the main committee of Berlin's House of Deputies has just proposed a ten-per-cent increase in ticket prices for the 1971-72 season. The Berlin authorities think that the increase will be approved. Wemar Stein, the Senator for Arts and Science, has said, "It seems as if the low cbb has been passed".

The Hamburg authorities have been thinking along the same lines. But theatre adviser Horst Lübbersmeyer does not think that the price of tickets can be increased everywhere: "It's possible to increase prices for the Thalia Theater and also for the Opera". His doubts concerning the Schauspielhaus seem justified not present.

Homburg's theatre adviser admits that opportunities for making theatres more economic are limited as there is an extremely large staff.

The Schauspielhaus employs 309 people at present, 234 of them in administrative or technical posts. The remainder are actors, producers, directors and the like.

Of the total budget of 9.6 million Marks granted for the current season by the Hamburg Senate 81 per cent goes to the staff and only nineteen per cent is spent on materials. The Deutsches Schauspielhaus has to pay more than eight million Marks on wages, salaries, fees and welfare contributions.

The Senate's preliminary estimate shows a six million Mark deficit for the Schauspielhaus that will have to be made up by the city. The most important source of income is the receipts from the

Continued on page 7

Young offenders write play for Dortmund theatre

encourage him to break open cigarette machines.

Frank is caught and the only person to sympathise with him is his girl friend, schoolgirl Ute. Even after the warrant for his arrest has been withdrawn and he has got off lightly because he comes from a good home, he refuses to return to his parents. What now?

The series of short realistic scenes set in his home, club and prison are convincing because of their everyday language that is exactly reproduced, probably unintentionally.

The scenes are interrupted by authentic judgments whose justification is read out by fellow-offenders. These reveal the shocking scale of prejudice that still judges an offender by his outward appearance and social background.

Such methods in the administration of justice are an obstacle to the rehabilitation of young outcasts as are, in Frank's

case, inhumane sentences and parental behaviour that is based on fear of disgrace.

The play by the young team of writers has been given an admirably natural flavour by the Dortmund ensemble. *What now?* must not be judged according to traditional artistic yardsticks.

The most decisive criterion for this documentary play is its degree of reality. And this sinks when the reasons for the failure of the younger generation are found almost exclusively in the failure of adults.

Personal consideration, though not self-criticism, would have helped the arguments behind this altogether justified accusation against society.

But perhaps it is rash to expect a discriminating attitude from those people who have been shunted through the legal system with all its bureaucratic inhibitions and cynical treatment of human beings.

A key phrase in *What now?*, scribbled on the wall of a cell in a detention centre, should, it is to be hoped, reach the address for which it is intended: "Jail — the murderer of my youth".

Hans Jansen
(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 6 February 1971)



Pas de trois in the Martin Luther church at Ulm
(Photo: Hannes Kilg)

Ulm experiments with church ballet

CHRIST UND WELT
Dietrich Zingg

It was obvious that the Martin Luther Church in Ulm had tried to provide adequate cover for a possible line of retreat. The church's official bulletin stated that it intended to revive an almost forgotten form of religious activity by organising dancing in church and following the tradition of the Latin countries.

Parishioners applauded. It almost seemed as if this was an acknowledgment of the efforts being made. But it was the spontaneous approval that betrayed the parishioners' expectations.

They did not think of this dancing as an expression of spiritual joy but as a ballet evening that had been switched by chance to a church.

Basically little had changed and, true to the unworldly, no liturgical aim could be recognised. The background, surroundings and comfort had all changed but the product had not. This only differed in degree and stylistic colour from the ballet presented in our theatres.

The young Stuttgart ballet dancer Jan Stripling provided the choreography in Ulm for Harold Heilmann's *Creation* and *Creation*, an ode for strings, alto voice, organ, vibraphone, percussion and mime.

It was done in the form of a simple pas de trois which he himself arranged with Susanne Hanke and Kurt Speker and interpreted in painless fashion.

He had to avoid two dangers. He could not simply follow in the tracks of the Klopstock poems that gave the composition its mental framework and neither could he just illustrate the music.

Stripling adopted a middle course and survived this switch of emphasis. Only occasionally did his steps and gestures approach the brink of religious pathos and the votive pictures of applied art.

But then he was able to use his precision to escape the danger of falling into the abyss. He made the work abstract and employed classical techniques to alienate the train of thought.

With this abstraction he isolated himself. He strengthened the special status of his ballet and set limits. His work was to be accepted as art and not as a substitute for the liturgy.

This is a basis for future efforts. Albrecht Haupt, the church's musical director, should feel encouraged to make new experiments. Perhaps ballet really does have a chance in church.

Hartmut Regitz
(CHRIST UND WELT, 12 February 1971)

■ THINGS SEEN

Stuttgart stages exhibition of 'Art in the office'

Art in the office is an ambitious and futuristic slogan. It is not something with which you can get to grips at first. There seems something false in imagining that in the end the outcome would be that the decoration on the wall of the managing director's office — probably quite a respectable picture — would be replaced by a Vassarely drawing or a work by Dieter Rot.

The principle would be the same; the ordinary white-collar workers would be excluded.

The organisers of the exhibition in Stuttgart *Kunst im Büro* were agreed about this other group at which they were aiming, the ordinary white-collar worker.

On 5 February the difficult subject was taken up threefold — practically, provocatively and theoretically. The exhibition takes advantage of a practical project by the Cologne office designer Walter Blusch, namely moveable dividing walls by means of which offices can be made larger or smaller as required.

Blusch turned the second floor of the Tiebauamt in Stuttgart where the exhibition was held into colourful "action rooms". This was not done specifically for the exhibition, but for regular usage.

The dividing walls were used to exhibit a selection of sketches and drawings and in between objects made of various materials.

Three Stuttgart galleries, Rehr Gallery, Galerie 2 and Valentien Gallery showed usual objects from their stocks. Otto Herbert Hajeck exhibited his works off his own bat. Gallery owners Ingo Künmöl and Friedrich H. Quiske (group art) are waiting in the wings with a Cologne art market in miniature — they did not bring any novelties with them, but did provide a much needed supply of information.

They sounded out the situation along with recognised progressive artists in Blusch's office room setup. The results of their problems will not be known till 20 February, since up till that time the officials of the Tiebauamt (civil engineering office) will be carrying on with their deskwork amid the exhibition which has now been stripped of about twenty per cent of its exhibits.

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performances. These total some three million Marks.

A look at the books will show that it is hardly possible to get state theatres in this country out of the red. Proposals in Hamburg to combine the administration of the two theatres and the opera house, rationalise administration and put on fewer new productions can only have the aim of keeping the deficit within limits.

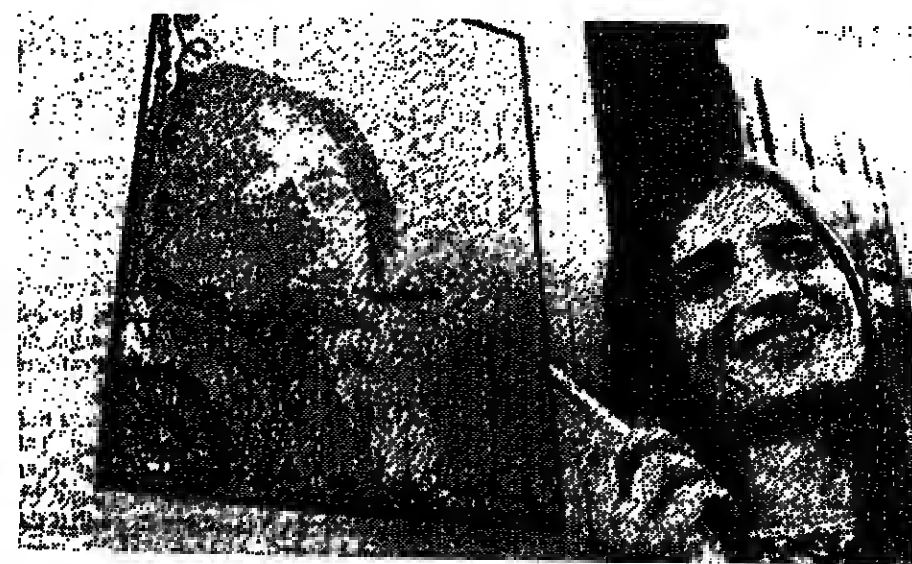
Theatres in this country, unlike industrial concerns, have still not realised that tired consumers will take notice of their products, once again if there is a lively advertising campaign.

The Hamburg Senate recognises that this can no longer be done with posters announcing the theatre timetable on advertisement pillars and in the daily press.

New advertising methods and performances in the suburbs, at schools and in firms could make the theatre more attractive and lead to a new type of audience at plays and operas.

Then, the Hamburg Senate states, the theatre would be carrying out its social and educational function. That seems necessary — less than ten per cent of the population are theatre-goers.

Günther Freese
(DIE ZEIT, 12 February 1971)



One of the office pictures!

(Photo: Y. Fong)

Poster exhibition in Munich

Political posters from all over the world are a good way of showing how far art and politics go to avoid each other.

As far as graphic artists are concerned soft drinks, precision machinery and whiter-than-white soap-powders are far better subjects for advertising posters. Politicians and their political programmes are not so easy to put over.

The faces staring from the hoardings before every election are very often a most depressing sight! Even the trend for political parties to commission the very best advertising agencies to spread the Word has not produced anything particularly wonderful in the way of political posters.

Although it is generally accepted that the political poster does not do much in the way of persuading the electorate to change sides the flood of posters continues to rise and swamp voters before the elections.

Presumably there is no foolproof way of working out just much effect posters have on voters and the way they place their X on election day.

Political posters must fulfil two purposes; they must be politically effective and artistically created. They must supply information and speak to an undercurrent of feeling. Graphic design and working often have to jostle for position. To convert political ideas, programmes and aims into a design is a particularly difficult.

Munich's Stadtmuseum is at present exhibiting about one thousand political placards of the present day, from left wing and right and from 35 different countries. This exhibition was planned by the Museum and also the Academy for Politics and Current Affairs at the Hans Seldal Foundation.

Thus the exhibition is rather a political and psychological event than an aesthetic one. The exhibition itself is neutral on the party political score. With the

fashionable expression being manipulation this exhibition is intended to act as political education and give an opportunity for comparative studies.

In order to make this test for itself the Academy for Politics and Current Affairs in Munich organised an international competition for the best political poster.

The fact that only a disappointing 97 entries arrived for this competition only underlines the fact that artists are now rather divorced from politics, or there is an atmosphere of tension between the two.

The first two prizes went to posters advertising the SPD. First prize was for a large hand with the thumbs-up sign and "SPD" tattooed on the thumb and a large colourful poster showing the letters S-P-D with a kind of alienation effect.

Third prize was for a CDU poster showing fragments of a broken bottle and saying "We need stability".

Probably the best poster did not receive a prize at all. It was for the Communists and showed the American Stars and Stripes with hammers and sickles instead of the stars.

In the exhibition itself the Big Brother of Communism put posters on show with the head of Lenin. And posters from western Europe were mainly devoted to portraying the heads of politicians. This was particularly true of posters from this country.

One of the most successful posters on show was from France. It showed the colours of the tricolour forming the word "oui" (yes). The word appeared eleven times, getting smaller each time until it took on the shape of an outline map of France. Underneath was the slogan *Oui à de Gaulle, oui à La France* (A vote for de Gaulle is a vote for France).

Of course national feelings play a major role in political posters. The lively and colourful posters from Cuba are particularly striking. They are campaigning for the organisation for "solidarity with Asia, Africa and Latin America".

Playing around with letters is a particular favourite with designers of political posters. Beaming children and happy-go-lucky teenagers show how happy they are with the SPD, CDU, ÖVP or Italian Christian Democrats as the case may be.

Self-praise is rife, promises are idealistic, opposing parties are devils in human disguise and slogans are all-important in the political advertising world.

"Let's have something new," is a very modern concept. But the compulsion towards something new tends to act rather as a brake.

Humour is not in demand at all, although in some cases it would be quite in place as a variation on some dull political themes.

H. Lehnmann
(Kleiner Nachrichten, 4 February 1971)

A political poster at Munich exhibition

(Photo: Katalog)

■ AGRICULTURE

DBV Leader explains why farmers demonstrate

Constantin Freiherr Heeremans von Zuydtwyck, 49, is President of the Federal Republic Farmers' Association and the Westphalia-Lippe Agricultural Association. He is a member of the Christian Democratic Union and about twenty other organisations. He owns a 247-acre farm, Wasserburg Surenberg at Riesenbeck in the Münsterland. He took up his office in the vanguard of the Green Front on 19 December 1969 with the promise that he would plan his tactics with diplomacy. In the following article he explains the change in style of the Farmers' Association, which will be mobilising its members at the end of the month for a mass meeting.

Unrest in the agricultural sector can no longer be overlooked. The general public and the Bonn government have both now opened their eyes and ears to it. At last movements have been made on the question of agriculture price policies. People are beginning to realise that prices for agricultural produce can no longer be checked — or to put it plainly, frozen.

Agricultural problems can not be resolved simply and solely by means of structural policies and social services as has now become clear.

This is a point that the Federal Republic Farmers' Association (DBV) has maintained time and again, basing their judgment on their inside knowledge of the setup in the agricultural sector.

It is, regrettable, that it has been necessary for members of the farming community to protest and hold demonstrations to force the point home to the general public.

Recently a meeting of members of the DBV was held in the Bad Godesberg suburb of Bonn. This extraordinary meet-

ing was responsible for "matters concerning the farming profession and economic affairs policies of basic and general significance" as the DBV formulated it.

The meeting was called to arrange a demonstration of farmers in Bonn planned for 27 February.

Unrest in the agricultural sector is not caused by emotions. Economics facts are at the root of it and causing farmers to join demonstrations. The index of prices for farm produce in December 1970 was twelve per cent down on the figure for December 1969.

The index of prices for industrial products, on the other hand, was four per cent up.

Even when the currency conversion compensation for the farmers to cancel out the negative consequences of revaluation of the Mark is taken into account it must be remembered that the compensation was only eight per cent. As a result of increased costs in the economy as a whole the agricultural sector has still had to bear an eight per cent loss.

Nor does this include the continual "losses through inflation", which the farmer's have to swallow because their prices are to a large extent fixed, whereas their expenditure on overheads, products from the other sectors of the economy, are by no means stable.

Therefore agriculture is forced to talk in terms of increased prices as well. Why not? This is something that is taken for granted in industry. It is part of our free enterprise economy.

We have asked for an average price increase of ten per cent to be accepted although this would vary from one type of produce to another. According to our calculations this would only push up the cost of living index in the second half of this year by a mere 0.6 per cent.



Farmers' demonstration in Stuttgart

The agricultural sector considers this a quite reasonable extra burden for the free enterprise economy to bear.

In addition to this farmers are calling for social welfare measures and in particular an increase in old-age pensions, a sickness insurance that is more realistic and a reform of the accident insurance scheme.

Price increases and higher wages in the industrial sector hit agriculture hard and directly. They lead to higher costs but the farmers cannot pass these on in the form of higher prices.

Demand for agricultural produce is subject to fluctuations and as regards supply farmers are tied to the land. Pasture lands are only suitable for producing milk.

Agriculture is often made to take the blame for over-production. The reason for this over-production (in the EEC) is the increase in productivity on the land, which, per farm worker and per year, is twice as great as for the economy as a whole.

The suggestion often made to farmers that they should cut their productivity in

order to achieve higher prices is also a theory.

We have, in the EEC, a market for trading. This means that as so-called developed learning games and yet another production is out in one member state in an effort to push up prices, the other country benefits by gaining a larger share of the market. It is not possible for the Federal Republic on 1 March this year.

The trend towards working dolls comes by creating a gap in supply. "Bambina" from Italy talks, sings and moves her lips. Another doll rocks a baby to the tune of Brahms' "Lullaby", "guten Abend, gut Nacht!" but also so that he can make investments and pay off debts, etcetera.

Anyone who produces anything in the living pursues a price policy for his product which is based on production costs. The United States has put on show a doll

Those who feel that prices for agricultural produce can be kept stable by subsidies to the farmers must overlook the problems that arise from such a system.

Even if this resolves the first problem there is still no guarantee it will lead to a more stable market.

(Wirtschaftswache/DER VOLKSWACHE 12 February 1971)

Problems of developing EEC and pleasing all the people all the time

new members enter the Common Market, which will probably be in 1973.

But the Federal Republic considers this would be a perilous move. The Common Market and the protectionism of its agricultural policies are subject to criticism from all over the world.

Moreover, after the delay to the bill for trade protectionism in America (the Mills Bill) the tension among world trading nations has certainly not been relaxed, but merely postponed.

Bonn has of course kept its trade relations with the United States in mind.

Basically, the Six accept that their agricultural products are subject to preferential treatment and there is a basis for this in the agricultural setup. Thus the problem was bound to crop up at some time.

But Bonn is out to see that the changes in the flow of trade are carried out as smoothly as possible. Otherwise the antagonism towards the European Economic Community, which is in part justified and in part a psychological trait could become more severe.

Latest reports from America confirm these fears fully. In fact not only agricultural policies are involved in this feeling of resentment. The EEC system of preferential areas and associate members in the Mediterranean and Africa has come in for criticism for some time now.

Just a few weeks ago the Americans expressed their concern through diplomatic channels in Great Britain, with the EEC member governments and at the Brussels Commission.

The multilateral problems are even more far-reaching. For instance there is the question of the role sterling will play when the Common Market becomes an economic and monetary union. This can only be decided on a multi-national level.

Work is at progress in Britain at present to prepare an EEC questionnaire on this subject. It stresses the connections between international trade and monetary problems.

Whatever the reasons for the French insisting on the immediate application of the new regulations to Great Britain upon her entry — either to protect French agriculture, or maybe a latent anti-American attitude — this country's worries that the climate of world trade could worsen as a result seem justified.

There is nothing new in this: Beck in

June 1970 there were differences of opinion in the Council of Ministers over the EEC preference policies. At that time Professor Schiller stressed the need to present these policies in a far more convincing manner on a worldwide level in multilateral committee meetings.

Extension of the Six to include applicant members, association with countries that are not seeking full membership, the Mediterranean countries, Commonwealth and African States form a unique trading area will create a lot more tension.

Only by taking careful, well-considered steps and exchanging opinions at all times can the danger of disruption of the trade be avoided. The committee is needed to arrange this have already been set up, namely GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

One first step could be the introduction in the near future of the customs preference system towards developing countries. A new Kennedy Round to remove non-tariff trade bars has been on drawing-board for years. It appears to high time that international talks take account of the new state of affairs.

Eberhard Wisdorf

(DIE WELT, 3 February 1971)

TOY TRENDS

Fewer military toys at this year's Nuremberg toy fair

The 22nd international toy fair in Nuremberg, the world's largest exhibition of new toys, closed on 12 February. Displaying an immense selection of new playthings, 1,368 toy manufacturers from 33 countries attended the Nuremberg fair. There were something like 20,000 buyers from 60 countries.

Novelties are in abundance again at this year's Nuremberg international toy fair. The greater part of these are toys with an educational and psychologically valuable aspect. Bright colours, numbers and letters on building blocks are designed to help children of pre-school age to learn systematically.

"Look close" and "Watch and understand" are the names of two newly developed learning games and yet another production is out in one member state in an effort to push up prices, the other country benefits by gaining a larger share of the market. It is not possible for the Federal Republic on 1 March this year.

The trend towards working dolls comes by creating a gap in supply. "Bambina" from Italy talks, sings and moves her lips. Another doll rocks a baby to the tune of Brahms' "Lullaby", "guten Abend, gut Nacht!" but also so that he can make investments and pay off debts, etcetera.

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More cigarettes smoked but exports dropped

Frankfurter
Neue Presse

Turnover of cigarettes in the Federal Republic last year increased by a further six per cent to 117.5 milliard single cigarettes. In 1969 the rate of increase was only five per cent.

According to the cigarette industry one of the main reasons why consumption of cigarettes went up was because of the increased influx of *Gastarbeiter* (foreign workers).

Another factor to be taken into account is that holidaymakers' cigarettes within the EEC are duty-free and with more people going abroad for their holidays this has been an encouragement to smoke.

When these special factors are taken into consideration it can be seen that the number of cigarettes smoked per capita of the native population of this country has not risen by any great amount.

Overall turnover for the cigarette industry rose to eleven milliard Marks. The taxman pocketed 6.5 thousand million Marks of this.

BAT's brand *HB* is still the biggest seller, ahead of Reemtsma's *Peter Stuyvesant* and *Ernte 23*. These three brands alone hold 45 per cent of the market.

Exports last year were about five milliard cigarettes, a drop of 25 per cent. One of the main reasons for this is that Italy has introduced special taxes on imported brands of cigarettes. Apart from this the foreign market has been quite pleasing for Federal Republic tobacco manufacturers.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 1 February 1971)



Dr Fritz Pirkel, the Bavarian Labour Minister (left) opening the 22nd Nuremberg toy fair (Photo: dpa)

involving rescuing astronauts in space with a realistic landing craft and rescue capsule.

As always there is a large contingent from the German Democratic Republic.

With the contents of their "universal optical construction equipment" it is possible to build a slide viewer, an astronomical telescope, an ordinary telescope, opera glasses or a microscope.

Another innovation from the German Democratic Republic is the *trio*, a musical instrument similar to a flute with twelve keys.

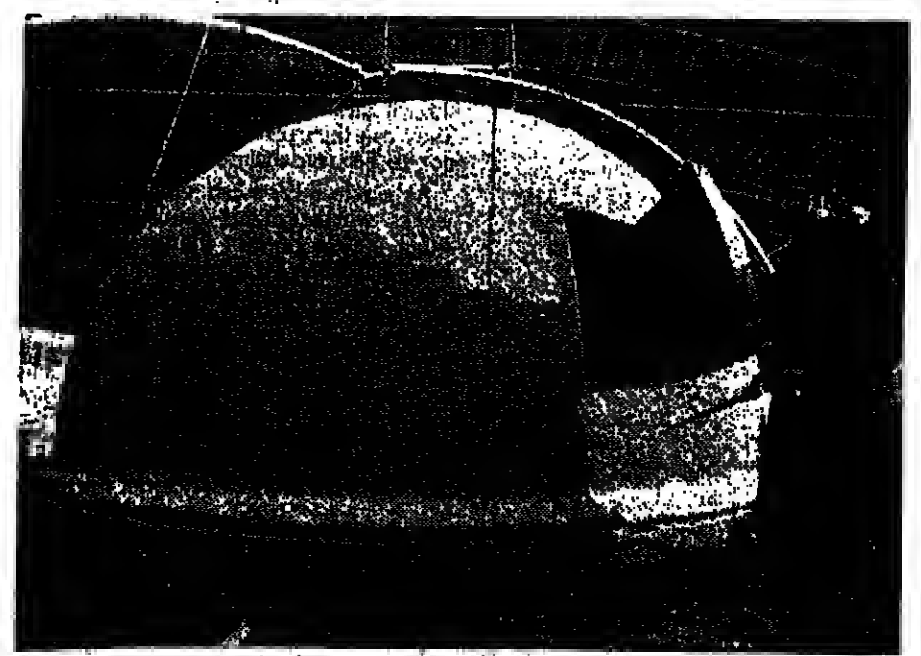
The modern doll's kitchen is fully equipped with the latest electronic equipment for grinding and percolating coffee, making tea and includes a liquidizer. Doll's furniture is realistic including tables and settees, and for kitchen furniture there are even toy ovens with spits as well as refrigerators.

There is very little in the way of military toys this year, the bulk coming from the United States, Italy and Switzerland. One Swiss firm is exhibiting tank corps, mounted guards officers and realistic cannons. There are also figures from the Wild West, knights and desert troops.

The neutral Swiss have also provided children with crime toys such as "jail-break", "bank robbery", "post office raid" and "capturing Wild West bandits".

It seems unlikely that these "toys" have much of a chance on the Federal Republic market. According to a survey conducted by the working group for the toy industry in 100,000 families in the Federal Republic nine per cent of ten are not in favour of war toys.

Hubert Neumann
(Städtische Zeitung, 6 February 1971)



Disposable housing at Essen exhibition

Disposable paper houses, synthetic foam bungalows and inflatable plastic dwellings are on show at the fifth Federal Republic building trades exhibition opened by Housing Minister Lauritz Lauritzen in Essen.

568 exhibitors from eight European countries are displaying their wares on a site of roughly 47,000 square metres (twelve acres) until 14 February. The fifth international building trades congress is being held simultaneously.

The most spectacular exhibits among the endless array of materials and techniques are unquestionably the disposable architecture items designed by Erwin Milderstein of Switzerland.

In a special display pyramid-shaped cardboard houses, a synthetic foam bungalow that can be sprayed together from two barrels of foam in an hour or so and models of town planning in cardboard can be seen. They are intended to provoke the onlooker into seeing property-ownership in a new light.

For the time being cardboard cities are not expected to leave the drawing-board but sooner or later apartments with thin paper walls will be built and the 25-square-metre (33-square-yard) unit will cost little more than a caravan.

Disposable houses have already been tried and tested as fishermen's huts in the Arctic and emergency hospitals in Vietnam. Near Las Vegas cardboard pioneers built a paper bridge across the Coyote Pass ravine and drove a five-ton lorry over it.

In his opening speech Herr Lauritzen advocated an increase in the amount of public funds made available for construction research. The present figure is a mere 7.5 million Marks per annum.

Over the next few years, he said, a considerable increase in production must be achieved by means of rationalisation and industrialisation of the building trades, particularly as rationalisation is closely linked with the problem of rising prices in the industry.

Only two to three per cent of housing built can be said at present to have been erected according to strictly rationalised construction methods.

This year's 20,000-Mark prize was awarded to planners Bernd Lauter and Manfred Zimmer of Munich and Darmstadt architect Jechem Jourdan.

(Hannoversche Presse, 8 February 1971)

Synthetic Igloo demonstrated at the Essen building trades exhibition. It can be set up in just over an hour.

(Photo: Cont-Press)

CONSUMER SPOTLIGHT

Mail-order giants mastermind spring and summer catalogues

DIE ZEIT

Convicts at Munich jail are working flat out to cope with Consul Schickedanz's seasonal rush. Dr. Gustav Schickedanz is the head of Quelle, based in Fürth, Bavaria, one of this country's leading mail-order houses, and his convict employees will have spent more than a week slipping order forms and brochures into more than 50,000 catalogues a day and slipping the lavishly-illustrated catalogues into the envelopes provided.

Roughly half the 3.7 million Quelle catalogues that are prepared for mailing within a fortnight of the appearance of the spring and summer catalogues are packed in Bavarian jails. The remainder are handled by housewives in the Bavarian Forst area and areas adjacent to the frontier with the GDR, not to mention special shifts at Quelle's mailing headquarters in Nuremberg.

Large-scale use of cheap labour is more economic for the firm than buying expensive machinery that would only operate at capacity for a fortnight once in six months.

The mountains of paper despatched twice a year to customers at home and in more than 100 foreign countries by this country's leading mail-order firm (Quelle's 1970 turnover amounted to roughly 3,500 million Marks, about half of which was accounted for by the mail-order sector) hardly bear thinking about.

Stacked one on top of the other the catalogues would tower eighty miles up into the sky and weighed on a monster weighbridge would be a match for no less than 16,000 Volkswagen beetles.

Together with five million catalogues despatched by Neckermann of Frankfurt, 1,400,000 by Werber Otto of Hamburg, 1,200,000 by Schwab of Hanau and millions more sent to customers by Schöpfung, a Quelle subsidiary, GEG, the Coop mail-order house based in Kamen, Westphalia, and Baur, an old-established mail-order firm in Burgkumstadt, Bavarian Forest, more mail-order catalogues are running off the presses this year than ever before.

More than fifteen million eye-catching catalogues will soon have landed on the breakfast tables of families all over the country advertising what the leading

mail-order firms have to offer this spring and summer. The Quelle or Neckermann catalogue is in many cases the only book in the house.

People in this country buy more from glossy photograph mail-order catalogues than anyone else. The average German buys 110 Marks worth of goods per year by mail-order, the Englishman 85 Marks, the Swede seventy and the American fifty Marks worth.

With a four-and-a-half-per-cent share in retail trade turnover totalling 1,840 million Marks in 1970 mail-order firms in this country are in a better position than their opposite numbers anywhere else.

The design, manufacture and despatch of their seductive best-sellers runs according to a strict timetable and military precision. Even a few day's delay could have unforseeable consequences for the mail-order magnates.

The catalogues in which their wares are presented is as important for the mail-order man as the floor space of a department store for a store manager.

The store manager pushes lines that are selling well in every department with the aim of boosting sales per square foot. The mail-order buyer aims at filling every page of the catalogue with sales successes.

In order to be able to judge the use to which catalogue space was being put and give less coverage to slower-selling lines in subsequent catalogues Josef Neckermann decided to work out turnover per square centimetre of catalogue page.

At the head offices of leading mail-order firms large departments spend all year and every year planning and producing the next catalogue. Quelle and Neckermann employ nearly 200 organisers, commercial artists, writers and photographers, Otto 120.

Photographers and layout men are at work on the next catalogue before the current one is despatched. At the beginning of January, six weeks before distribution of the spring and summer catalogue, the management of Quelle reached a decision as to the size and content of the winter catalogue, which is not printed until August.

Shortly afterwards the catalogue planners set the buyers deadlines for supplying the samples they need for illustration in the winter catalogue.

The layout pages of merchandise that is less subject to fashion changes are ready quite early. The first line to take final

page shape is men's outerwear, which is little affected by the vagaries of fashion.

Similarly unproblematic lines such as bed linen, furniture and household goods are also photographed and supplied with a sales patter early on in the proceedings. The very last section to be completed is women's fashion, which have to be as up-to-date as possible when the freshly-printed catalogue lands on the consumer's kitchen table.

This year the buyers were in a quandary as to whether to plump for mini, midi or maxi. At a number of mail-order firms overtime had to be worked to offset the delay caused by this time-wasting problem.

The cover photo must be particularly at the height of fashion and no catalogue would be complete without the latest fashions on the cover. The firms know only too well that women are first to peruse the catalogues and that an attractive fashion display will decide them to thumb through the fashion section right away.

The models must accordingly look neither too plain nor too sexy. As many women as possible must feel able to identify themselves with the woman in the catalogue who are wearing the clothes they would like to buy.

Stocking limitations of mail-order houses

Otto have their 828-page catalogue (as against Quelle's 648, Neckermann's 682 and Schwab's 808 pages) printed by a single firm in Munich.

Unlike department stores, which need only rearrange their shop-window displays so as to "sell" a new line to customers when an old one goes out of stock, mail-order firms cannot allow themselves this luxury.

A mail-order customer occasionally has to wait some time for his parcel to arrive and if it does not deliver the goods he or she are annoyed and may withdraw their custom.

In order not to over- or underbuy fashion in particular, incalculable as it is, the leading mail-order firms have test runs of their fashion sections before despatching the main catalogue.

A few weeks before the main catalogue appears Quelle, for instance, sends slim pre-catalogues containing nothing but the latest in fashion to several thousand agents.

The orders that come give the buyers a shrewd idea as to how the lines will sell. They can then place prompt orders so as not to be overwhelmed by the demand.

As a rule buyers can tell within a few weeks whether their purchases of the other 40,000 lines in the catalogue have been sufficient. Computers print out sales figures several times a week and provide a good idea as to turnover as a whole is falling. The computers can base their forecasts on sales trends in previous seasons.

Major mail-order firms set great store by their prestige as inexpensive dealers. Twice a year they tensely await the prices charged by their competitors for lines that count as criteria of good value: colour TV sets, dishwashers and washing machines.

Leaflets slipped into the body of the catalogue at the last moment proclaiming,

Major mail-order firms and their catalogue circulation

Quelle	6.5 million
Neckermann	5.0 million
Schöpfung	2.0 million
Otto	1.4 million
Schwab	1.2 million
GEG	1.1 million
Baur	450,000

In order to photograph such fashions against the right background, November the mail-order managers, coordinators to the Mediterranean line and the Canaries.

Quelle's summer fashions were photographed in Tunisia and Tenerife, the Portuguese Algarve coast. Schwab's in Malaga and Lisbon. Mail-order men can then return to studios to deal with goods that need a scenic background, from carpets, linen, radio and TV to washing machines.

In order to be able to deliver the individual sections of the catalogue close to the printing-date as Neckermann and Schwab decide employ a large number of printers. Neckermann have 81, Schwab eighteen.

The separately printed sections are bound on special machines run by large printer. Quelle, the league leader, uses only eight printers, but include Muntz of Verona, the known Italian firm.

Due to last-minute favour terms we are able to supply the TV console even more cheaply advertised in the catalogue" and reply resorted to in an attempt to under the competition and boost the image.

It is hard to say how successful industrial espionage is in the mail-order business. It cannot be too easy to hold of the various sections of competitors' catalogues from anything but score of printers in advance.

On the quiet, though, the managers of more than one mail-order firm in department store chain will admit knowing in advance what the competition has to offer. They procure advance copies of the catalogues somehow or other, have their own sales strategists go after them with a fine-toothed comb.

Catalogues cost more and more produce. Neckermann invests eight million in a copy, Quelle ten and Otto ten. Otto's catalogues have to stand up to a fair amount of wear and tear, since Otto, like Schwab and Baur, with sparetime agents who show the books to friends and relations and place bulk orders in return for a commission.

Otto can afford to plough more in catalogue because as a result each catalogue nets 380 Marks in sales. What Quelle and Neckermann send their agents to anyone who is interested in a turnover of a mere 110-75 Marks per catalogue respectively.

Dr. Schickedanz's best customers include some 5,000 diplomats from all over the world who have their catalogues by registered post and their goods delivered by diplomatic courier. Soviet diplomats in a number of capital cities among the best buyers.

Hans Otto Eger
DIE ZEIT, 12 February 1971

POLLUTION

Old oilfields could be dumping grounds for effluent

Spent oilfields in North-West Germany may one day be the final resting-place of poisonous industrial effluent, the disposal of which at present creates some-thing of a headache and is often an expensive business.

This proposal, important in respect of both the economy and the environment, is made in a report published by the Lower Saxony State Geological Office.

The report has been submitted to the Federal and state Ministries of Economic Affairs. It consists of a thorough examination of the problem from technological, geological and legal angles. The idea came with the realisation that this country's petroleum production has passed its peak. Part of the oilfields discovered forty to fifty years ago are already exhausted.

The geologists reckon that more and more, perhaps three to four oilfields a year, will have to be abandoned as uneconomical over the next few years.

In 25 to forty years at the latest, they maintain, petroleum production from the fields at present known to exist in this country will be a thing of the past.

Sixty to 85 per cent of the original amount of crude oil may still be there but so much matter how critical the power situation may be it would be uneconomical to exploit what is left by conventional means.

Could, then, the underground storage space be put to other uses, the geologists wondered, and if so how?

Electronic warning for rail track layers

As a result of several years of development work Deutsche Bundesbahn, the Federal Railways, have issued three prototypes of an electronic warning system to give track-layers adequate advance warning of approaching trains and, it is hoped, reduce the strikingly high accident figures among track-laying and maintenance operatives.

One, Hans Beckmann of the railway union executive states, has been issued to Frankfurt region.

The electronic warning device is connected to a track contact and consists mainly of a box, batteries and the horn. Yet it took a good deal of technical ingenuity to overcome the difficulties that arose in the course of development.

The first trial model was used for several weeks on a bridge site where track-laying work was in progress. This was to gain a first impression of whether or not the device fulfilled the high safety requirements on which the Bundesbahn must insist.

Herr Beckmann was a little doubtful as to whether the prototype now in use would prove satisfactory on moving sites. It is quite heavy, difficult to carry about and will probably prove most suitable for semi-permanent sites.

In view of the many accidents that do occur the union insists on the development of a device that gives gangs working overhead adequate warning of approaching trains.

"The main problem still requiring solution is unquestionably the weight," Beckmann says. "In addition to the batteries the numerous safety devices that trigger off the alarm as soon as any conceivable defect becomes apparent have made the device a considerable weight."

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 6 February 1971)

Temporary storage of gas, liquid gas, diesel oil, gasoline or kerosene is out of the question because of the risk of contamination by the crude oil still down below.

The geologists do, on the other hand, foresee possibilities of using the spent oilfields as a final resting-place for harmful gaseous and liquid effluent that costs a great deal to dispose of elsewhere and plays a part in contaminating the environment no matter how much it is diluted prior to release into the atmosphere or river or the sea.

Experience has shown that substances as toxic as this do not occur in tremendous amounts and moderate storage facilities would probably be sufficient to cope with the intake for some time.

Assuming, for theory's sake, that the same amount of toxic effluent is pumped into the oilfields as has been pumped out in the form of petroleum or natural gas over the years and is likely still to be exploited some 230 million cubic metres (300 million cubic yards) of storage space might be available.

In practice, of course, there will not be quite so much because a number of deposits can only be used in part for geological reasons. The six million cubic metres of space in oilfields already abandoned do not represent a very interesting proposition either.

The 52 million cubic metres that will become available as oilfields are abandoned over the next ten years could prove most useful, though, and the bulk of the potential storage space, some 172 million cubic metres, will still be to come.

A whole assortment of problems must be solved before noxious by-products are consigned to geological oblivion. The geologists themselves must estimate the amount of storage space needed and carefully check the behaviour of certain by-products in oil-bearing strata.

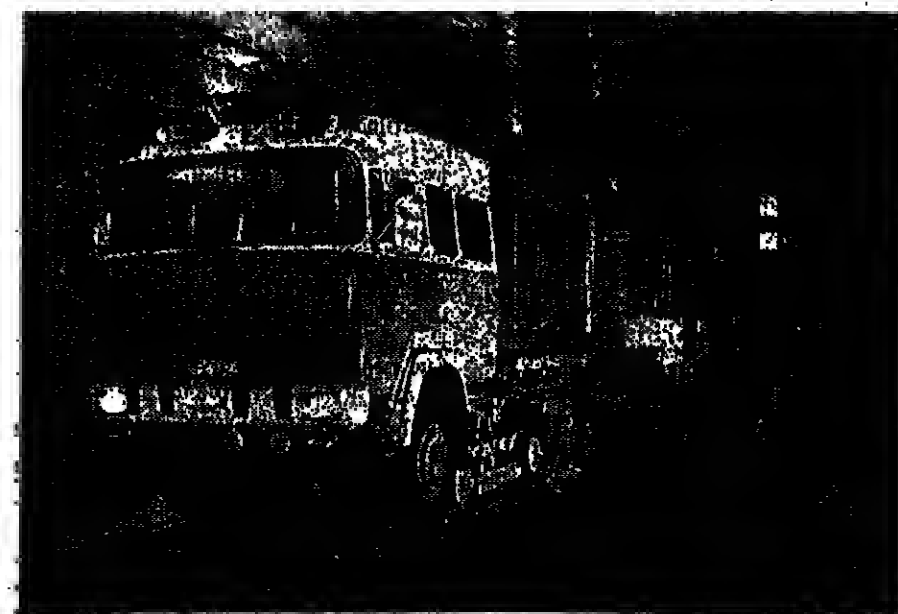
From the legal angle amendments must be made to existing mining law so as to cover the transfer of an oilfield from the claimholder to the subsequent user.

As for the financial side of matters someone must be responsible for the maintenance and safety of open boreholes. According to the law as it now stands boreholes must be plugged with cement as soon as they are no longer needed.

This is the third proposal for underground storage facilities to be made by the Hanover geologists that has been of national importance.

Helmut Schmidt

(Hannoversche Presse, 9 February 1971)



Underground recovery

The world's first Underground recovery vehicle has recently been taken into service in Frankfurt. Weighing sixteen tons, it was designed by four Federal Republic firms. It includes intercom and six floodlights, costing 240,000 Marks. Mobile by both road and rail, it is specially designed for rescue work in Underground tunnels. It has hydraulic winches, welding equipment and oxygen burners, fire extinguishers and medical supplies for the seriously injured on board. A second vehicle has been commissioned and interest has been shown by the New York, Moscow and Tokyo Undergrounds.

(Photo: AP)

Communications satellite

Deutsche Bundespost's third communications satellite tracking station at Reisting, Bavaria, is to be taken into service in time for the 1972 Munich Olympics. The first aerial handles telecommunications with the Middle and Far East, the second links with North and South America. In view of the growing number of countries linked to the Intelsat system a third aerial has proved necessary and will be ready by mid-July 1972 (instead of the original 1973) in time to handle Olympic TV, radio, radiophoto and phone links. This superimposed photo shows the first aerial (left, radome-covered) and to its right aerials two and three, which are shielded from the elements by infra-red radiation.

(Photo: Lichtbildstelle des FTZ Darmstadt)

Bundestag hearing on marine pollution

Ecologists reckon that new holiday areas and camping sites on the coast ought only to be made available when sewage facilities are adequate.

At an open meeting on problems relating to environmental protection Professor Berndt, director of the institute of hygiene and medical microbiology of Lübeck Medical Academy, told the home affairs and health sub-committees of the Bundestag that sewage disposal was the main cause of water pollution in the Bight of Lübeck.

The continual increase in pollution of coastal waters in recent years can in part, he said, be attributed to the construction of new hotel complexes and holiday centres without sufficient sewage disposal facilities.

Most of the specialists consulted, including Professor Ulrich Röll of Hamburg, head of the Federal Republic Hydrographical Institute, advocated a comprehensive system of inspection and control so as to prevent irreparable harm.

The sea must not be allowed to become one enormous garbage heap, Dr. Benedikt of the inter-state study group on sewage disposal stated.

The sources of marine pollution men-

tioned included industrial effluent, domestic sewage, agriculture, shipping and exploitation of raw materials from the sea.

Professor Berndt, head of the Institute of Oceanology at Kiel University, admitted that the health hazard of direct use of seawater by man was slight.

A more frequent cause of illness, he continued, is the consumption of sea food, say fish that have absorbed noxious substances in their own food.

The disturbance of the biological balance in the sea represents a particularly serious aspect of the problem. Whales and seals die when their noses and eyes are clogged up with oil and fish eggs and larvae stand to be harmed by the components of oil that are soluble in water.

Professor Tiaws, director of the Federal Fishery Research Institute in Hamburg, talked in terms of a considerable increase in marine pollution.

The overall amount of pollution is as yet so slight, though, that it has not for the time being affected the amount of fish caught in waters fished by this country's fleet to any great extent.

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 9 February 1971)

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■ OUR WORLD

Medals and honours are part of the international scene

President Gustav Heinemann, this country's highest official responsible for conferring honours, said resignedly a few days after he took office: "There is no rhyme nor reason in the business of bestowing honours in this country and I see no way of making the system more just. And in connection with other countries we are tied to international usage."



Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany

These world-wide customs which are recognised by conventional democracies as well as by the developing nations of Africa, have led to the situation where the anti-German leader of Equatorial Guinea, Sekou Touré, Queen Soraya and the former dictator of Argentina, Juan Perón, can still wear the highest honour of the Federal Republic, namely senior grade of the Order of Merit which was actually created for heads of states and their wives and which including the star end shash has a material value of about 300 Marks.

Despite his brutal treatment of people from this country Sekou Touré can still wear the highest distinction of the Federal Republic on formal occasions at

though diplomatic relations between Conakry and Bonn have been severed.

Medals that have been presented to foreigners cannot be recalled. But after the death of the man who wore them they must be returned.

President Heinemann, who like his predecessors Theodor Heuss and Heinrich Lübke is bound by international usage in the award of honours to people from other countries. These rules date back to the Congress of Vienna in 1814-1815.

Heads of state exchange honours in much the same way that ordinary people shake hands. The exchange of honours, devised in the Middle Ages as a symbol of peace or at least civil peace, does not mean much more today than a political gesture that is offered on official occasions. The grade of awards depends on the rank of the person who is being awarded, but not on the value of his services to the Federal Republic.

Before state visits the guest and host present their list of honours required, dictated by custom, and these are offered without any kind of investigation. Visitor and host both receive the honour that is ascribed to them by protocol.

Heads of state always receive from President Gustav Heinemann the special grade of the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit. Assistants to a senior master of ceremonies at court must be content with Bonn's lowest grade of honour, the Verdienstmedaille (Service Medal).

At times protocol makes some peculiar demands. Ex-President Lübke once had to award a Mexican chief of police, the second highest Federal Republic honour the Grosses Verdienstkreuz mit Stern (Great Service Cross with Star) because protocol demanded this.

In between orders for presidents and their suits there are four various grades of honours.



Bavarian Order of Merit

According to international usage the number of honours that are exchanged on state visits is not equal. The visitor, as a general rule, gives away three times as many honours as the host.

Very few states do not follow these customs that have been handed down from feudal times. Zambia, for instance, does not give any honours and the Soviet Union only honours foreign statesmen and civilians considered by the Supreme Soviet to have done political work worthy of honour.

Internationally famous awards have histories going back centuries. England first awarded the Order of the Garter in 1350, the Order of Vasa in Sweden dates from 1772 and the French Cross of the Legion of Honour from 1802.

The honours secretary in the Federal former President's Office, Hans-Ulrich Krenz, described in his book *Orden und Ehrenzeichen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland* the motivations behind Theodor Heuss' decision in 1951 to reinstate the German code of honours: "To give thanks and recognition to other countries that have helped us... must be the aim of the people of this country. There was a scheme to supplement this code of honour with, among other things, a State award to all those who, after the war, had been particularly generous in their effort to alleviate suffering in this country."



The Lower Saxony Order of Merit

The 1971 Budget for honours was at 110,000 Marks, about 100,000 for the metal and other materials and a remainder for the partially hand-worked medallions. It is probable that honours accumulated by the people of this country this year will be worth times as much.

(WLT and SONNTAG, 7 February)

SPORT

Ski specifications to be displayed on skis

Nearly 200 different skis were on show at the 1971 International Sports Goods Fair, held in Munich from 8 to 21 February. The 1971/72 models are one of the world's major manufacturers of breaking strain, condensation time, vibration response, warp-resistance and deformation printed on the skis.

With these technical details at his fingertips the customer will be better able to judge which ski is best suited to his or her own requirements. The consumer might also find it easier to select the best buy from the confusing variety of models available.

Other manufacturers can certainly be expected to follow suit, with the result that the particulars of a model may well develop into a criterion of quality as is already the case with a fair number of consumer goods.

Gratifying though this development may be for the consumer it could well prove problematic for many a small and medium-sized manufacturer.

For the time being, however, no ski manufacturer need worry about selling the goods. In recent years turnover has regularly increased by ten to twenty per cent per annum. The growth rate last season was even higher in the case of a number of well-known Austrian manufacturers, with the result that dealers were given quotas.

The end of the boom is not yet in sight either. Fifteen million people ski at present. By the end of the century their number is expected to have doubled.

It is by no means merely a matter of the large number of beginners who will be buying their first set of equipment in the years to come. There is a growing trend towards buying a second pair of skis that is bound to keep business brisk. It is no longer felt to be a luxury for a skier to have one pair of skis for ice and another for deep, soft snow.

Yet competition is ferocious. The firms with greater financial resources have been particularly quick in rationalising and mechanising production methods in recent years. Next year Fischer of Ried, Austria, the world's largest manufacturer, will probably top the million-mark for the first time. Their 1970/71 production figure was 700,000 pairs of skis.

Only a few years ago this figure would have been dismissed as wishful thinking and smaller firms that are still to all intents and purposes craftsmen's workshops cannot keep up the pace.

Erbacher, Heinrich Hammer, Badense, one of the foremost domestic manufacturers, sold out roughly a year ago to Deutsche Dunlop of Hanau, near Frankfurt. Städtische Hammerwerke of Bad Mergentheim joined forces with Metzeler, another tyre manufacturer, a couple of years ago.

Author of Switzerland have been taken over by Allen of America, Kästle of Hohenems by Fischer and Head of America, the manufacturer with the world's largest turnover, are in line for a financial

shot in the arm from IBM. Rossignol of France have joined forces with Dynastar. Mergers and take-overs can be expected to continue apace in the next few years. Pundits predict that in the next ten years the only manufacturers that will retain a say in markets will be Fischer, Kneissl, Kästle, Arnsteler (Blizzard) and Rohrmoser (Atomic) of Austria, Rossignol of France, Völk, Erbacher and Fritzmeier of this country, Elan of Yugoslavia, Head of the United States and Kazama and Yamaha of Japan.

At present there are still between forty and fifty ski manufacturers in this country, ten to twenty of whom are small- or medium-sized firms. Domestic production this season is estimated to have been between 600,000 and 700,000, roughly half of which is exported.

Imports, especially from Austria, are considerable, the domestic market being around 750,000 pairs per annum. This makes the Federal Republic the second-largest market for skis in the world after the United States.

In the 1969/70 season world production is estimated to have exceeded three million.

The United States and this country, the world's two major markets, are hotly contested. Major manufacturers have set up their own sales networks in both countries. In the near future Fischer of Austria intend to start manufacturing skis at Simbach in this country.

Rossignol of France, who already manufacture in Italy and Switzerland as well, have plans to start up production in Spain, Canada and this country too.

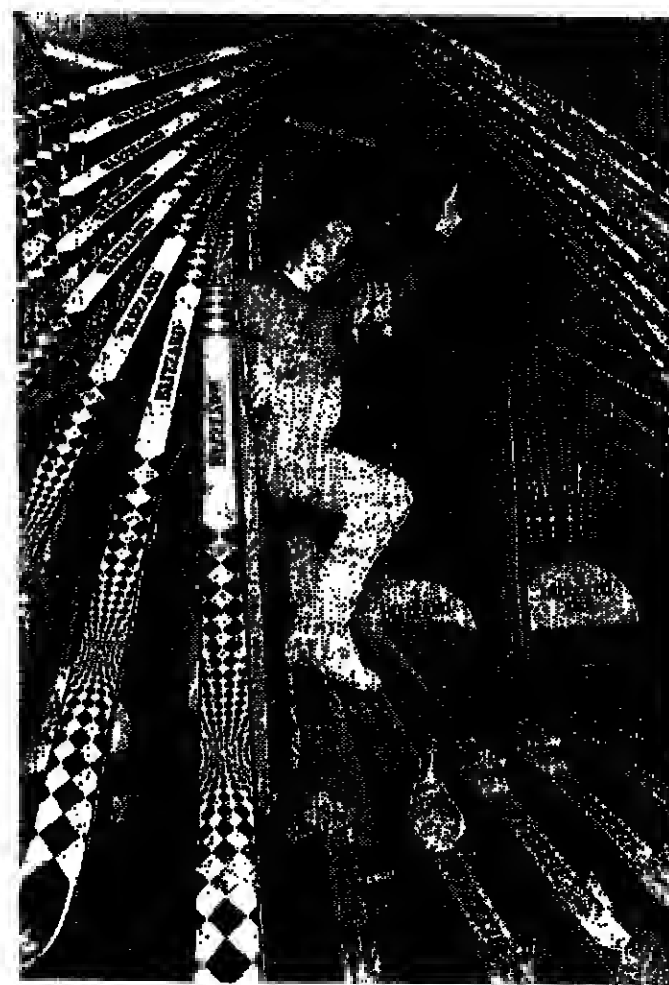
The Japanese are also doing their level best to gain a firm foothold on the European market. The 1972 Winter Olympics, to be held in Sapporo, Japan, will doubtless prove extremely useful in

this respect for what is, after all, a major industrial country. While diversification is a common practice as a means of hedging bets in other industries it is still relatively unknown in the ski trade. Only recently have there been signs that a change may be on the horizon. A winter sports firm is shortly to be set up in Austria that will manufacture not only skis but also a number of other complementary products. Fischer, who already cooperate on sales with Humanic, the ski-boot manufacturer and Marker, the manufacturer of ski bindings have similar plans. Fischer have already set up Fischer-Marker-Humanic of Canada in Toronto and Fischer-Kästle Sales of France. The French subsidiary also markets ski sticks manufactured by a Viennese firm.

Domestic manufacturers are also making every effort to enlarge their production range. Völk recently added sticks, ski socks and a synthetic curling set to their range. BD Bavaria Binding of Munich offer on all-in-aking set, with a number of well-known manufacturers such as Klepper, Rosenheim, Erbacher, Elan and others under contract.

Head, who market not only skis but also sking outerwear, have for some time held 75 per cent of the share capital of Kastinger and Köflich, the Austrian boot and shoe manufacturers.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 12 February 1971)



After 26 years in Wiesbaden the International Sporting Goods Exhibition was finally transferred to Munich last year and has done well there. This year 626 main and 227 subsidiary exhibitors from 26 countries exhibited a wide range of articles used in winter, summer and all-the-year-round sport from ski gloves to tent pegs. The snow business fair, as it is called, is the largest of its kind for winter sports but it does not by any means cater solely for winter sports. 467 main exhibitors displayed winter sports goods, 318 exhibitors showed non-seasonal articles.

(Photo: Münchner Messe- und Ausstellungs-Gesellschaft mbH.)

The hazards that face Bundestag members

Jakob Hauswirth's maiden speech from the public gallery of the Bundestag followed by flying fists on the platform of the plenary chamber brings back memories.

Names such as Beate Klarsfeld come to mind. Three years ago she gave the then Federal Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger a nickname which stemmed from the days of the Third Reich. And there have been a whole army of hard-luck yarn spinners, beggars and plaintiffs who have used the Bundestag as a platform without going through the democratic channels of the elected representatives of the people to voice their grievances and complaints.

Such as they have caused momentary uproar in the Bundestag. They rarely achieve anything more than a few lines in the paper since their activities are part of the everyday life of Bundestag officials. For a long time now the legal authorities in the Federal Republic capital have acted leniently towards these visitors to the house.

Bonn housewife Gerde Ewari-Basten for example received no further punishment than a life-long ban on visiting the Bundestag when she voiced her objection to the proposed emergency powers legislation by loud blasts on a swimming coach's whistle.

The former Federal Minister of Family Affairs Dr. Franz-Josef Wymeling (CDU) almost gave rise to a furore for all in the Bundestag when he called out to the whistling housewife: "You must be one of the SPD's reinforcements!" A cheerful old age pensioner from Bochum earned himself a notable place in

the ranks of Bundestag disturbers of the peace.

On 1st December 1965 this former miner sprang up while Chancellor Erhard was in the middle of a speech and called out "I'm a worker - why don't you do some work as well!" The result of this unscheduled outburst was a long ban from the Bundestag and nothing more.

Erhard Reinhard and Eckhardt Bragard, both from Aachen, who were described as "insignificant madmen" did not come off so well and had to spend several months in jail.

They sent about thirty Bundestag members and journalists letters containing the threat: "You will be sentenced to death if you come out in favour of the plans to lengthen the time after which Nazi crimes are no longer indictable."

Investigations of this affair quickly brought the background to light. Bragard was a member of the NPD.

Right-wing radicals have been in the Bundestag for a long time now although the electorate has never sent a member of the NPD to the house.

Three weeks later 40-year-old Georg Schäfer from a suburb of Bonn, who has only one leg, stormed the Bundestag. He drove up to the entrance to the building then raced on crutches through the doors. Before that he had donned his old brown shirt, put on his golden Deutsches Kreuz, the Infanteriesturmabzeichen and the black Verwundetenabzeichen. The security officials who tried to stop his mad dash into the Bundestag were told that he was "Reich Chancellor for the day and had come to take over the leadership of the Sixth Reich."

But instead of going into Pöhl's Schaumburg he was taken to a local clinic specialising in mental disorders.

The security officials who have to tackle would-be intruders have a number of minor incidents to deal with every day. The smith's wife from Neuz-Blittgen was one. For years she came every month by taxi to Bonn spending 70 Marks on the fare and told the officials that she had an important petition to hand in.

There was also the 70-year-old woman from Bonn who was in the visitors' gallery of almost every plenary meeting up until her death, even when the sittings went on until late in the night.

There was also the young citizen of the Federal Republic who went on a sit-down strike in front of Entrance III in 1966

because he said he had in speech to Franz-Josef Strauss" who, he claimed, obstructed his wife.

And finally there was the case of Katharina Schödl who on 2 July 1965 at the psychiatric ward of Eichberg hospital and next day appeared in the Bundestag and told members that she was not ill.

Those who do not fancy going to the Bundestag without going through the usual channels write letters.

Walter Gref from Bonn for example sent a letter in November 1965 calling for the arrest of ninety people without delay. He had sent in a complete list of names and they ranged from Erich Mielke to Müller, the chemist from Rheinfelden. The reason he gave was that "a gang of crooks has made our blood magnetic."

Maria Scholz from Kaltenkirchen believed that she was Anastasia offering her services to the SPD parliamentary party and said that she could help to plan their political activities.

Suspicious packets and parcels sorted out by security officials are immediately investigated. Sometimes there are amusing surprises.

In one packet addressed to Chancellor Konrad Adenauer a ticking was heard. When it was opened it contained a valuable timepiece that had been bequeathed to him by an admirer.

A parcel that was sent to Erich Mielke made strange noises and when it was opened it was found to contain a wooden doll, intended as a satire on Mielke's proclivity to changing his mind.

(Kleiner Nachrichten, 9 February)

Bonn spends 200 million Marks on sport

Allocations for sport made by the Ministry for the Interior this year amount to 159.9 million Marks. Together with the Foreign Office estimates for sports development aid and the funds provided by the Ministry of Inter-German Relations for promoting sporting exchanges between this country and the GDR Bonn will be spending some 200 million Marks on sport this year.

This is the highest amount ever ploughed into sport since the Federal Republic was established in 1949 and represents an increase of 54 million Marks over last year's expenditure.

Following debate in the finance and sport committees a number of items have been promised even more financial support, particularly sports facility construction,

sport in areas bordering on the GDR and sport in West Berlin, the Bundestag committees boosting allocations from nine to sixteen million Marks.

A further seven and a half million Marks are to be provided by the Federal government towards the Sports League's Golden Plan and 19.5 million Marks are to be invested in the construction costs of Federal training centres for individual disciplines. A little over twenty million Marks is also to be ploughed into centralised measures in the world of sport.

Fifty million Marks in all have been approved within the framework of medium-term financial planning for the construction and improvement of sports stadiums in preparation for the 1974 football World Cup, to be held in this

country. A further ten million are to be made available this year. Last year part of the total was put at the disposal of Hamburg and Düsseldorf.

At present the government sees no need to propose any increase in the total, Minister of the Interior Hans-Dietrich Genscher notes. Next year sixteen million Marks will be made available and in 1973 the final instalment of twenty million. An additional 35 million Marks are to be invested in improvements to the Berlin Olympic stadium.

More than half the overall total is to be invested in construction work on the Olympic sports facilities in Munich and Kiel. This year the Federal government is to provide 85 million Marks as its fifty-per-cent share of the costs. Last year this sum was 46 million. The organisation committee for the 1972 Munich Olympics is to receive a repayable loan of seven million Marks.

In order to press ahead with work in preparation for the opening of the Federal Sports Institute in Cologne 4.3 million Marks are to be allocated.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 9 February 1971)

SA 0.05	Colombia col. 1	France 1	NT 2.5	Indonesia Rp. 15	Malawi M. 11 d	Paraguay G. 3.80	Sudan FT 5
Al 10	Congo (Brazzaville) 1	Germany 1	PF 0.50	Iran 30 Tls	Peru 30 S	Poland 1	Syria 8 0.50
DA 0.50	Congo (Kinshasa) 1	Ghana 1	P.C.F.A. 20	Iraq 1	Philippines 1	Portugal 1	Tanzania 8 0.50
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10 c	Cyprus 1	Guinea 1	11 d	Jamaica 1	Mozambique 1	Sierra Leone 1	Togo 8 0.10
5 c	Dahomey 1	Guinea 1	11 d	Japan 1	Nepal 1	South Africa 1	Tunisia 8 0.10
5 c	Dominican Republic 1	Guinea 1	11 d	Jordan 1	Netherlands 1	Swaziland 1	Uganda 8 0.10
5 c	Ecuador 1	Guinea 1	11 d	Kuwait 1	Netherlands Antilles 1	Switzerland 1	USA 8 0.10
5 c	El Salvador 1	Guinea 1	11 d	Lebanon 1	Qatar 1	Taiwan 1	USSR 8 0.10
5 c	Equatorial Guinea 1	Guinea 1	11 d	Liberia 1	Rwanda 1	USSR 8 0.10	Venezuela 8 0.10
5 c	Ethiopia 1	Guinea 1	11 d	Libya 1	Senegal 1	USSR 8 0.10	Zambia 11 d
5 c	Finland 1	Guinea 1	11 d	Luxembourg 1	Sierra Leone 1	USSR 8 0.10	
5 c	France 1	Guinea 1	11 d	Madagascar 1	South Africa 1	USSR 8 0.10	